

NORMAN J. COLMAN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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ADDRESS, BENJ. BRYAN, PUBLISHER,
97 Chesnut St., Saint Louis, Mo.

TOBACCO CULTURE.

ED. VALLEY FARMER: Our method of cultivating, harvesting and curing tobacco, is simple and easily acquired. We break up our tobacco and corn land at the same time. The land intended for tobacco, is then subject to a good harrowing. Again, early in May, it is broken up, harrowed and brushed. The land is then laid off and crossed, three and a half feet by four. In the crossing (or just where the furrows cross), a small hill is made with the hoe, drawing up the earth to a point about one foot high, then striking upon it with the flat part of the hoe, thus making a surface from seven to ten inches in diameter to receive the plant after the first rain. We aim to have our hills ready by the 25th of May.

One of the principal essentials for a good crop of tobacco, is to break up deeply and pulverize the soil well: this done, the crop is half made.

After the first tolerably soaking shower, the plants are drawn and set out in manner and mode to-wit: Two hands distributing or dropping one at each hill, while three follow after setting them, by thrusting a hole about the centre of the hill with one of the front fingers, putting in the plant and pressing the earth gently to it with the front finger and thumb of each hand.

Having completed the setting out, nothing more is done, unless perhaps a re-planting or two, until the plants have put out two or three new leaves. We then go over it with the hoe, scraping lightly around each plant (two strokes properly made will suffice), as much to break the baked earth, as for the removal of grass and weeds. A light and easily handled plow is then put to work, and the plowing continued, at intervals of about ten days, as long as a horse can pass between the plants without breaking the leaves. About the fourth plowing, we again put in with our hoes, break off three or four of the ground leaves, and throw up the soil pretty well around the stalks. After it is hilled up, we give the tobacco a plowing or two. About this time, or during the light of the moon of July, much of our time is devoted to removing the eggs and small worms that are just now being produced pretty freely; in fact we might say, that from the latter part of this month until the crop is housed, our entire energies are devoted to topping, and removing eggs, worms and suckers. We top to six and ten leaves, owing to the vigor of the plant and the lateness of the season.

As soon as one-fourth or third of the crop is ripe enough for the knife, we begin the cutting. Knives of many descriptions are used; and, in

our opinion, planters stand greatly in their own light in this respect. Comfort and ease should be consulted, no less than expedition.

Last season, a style of knife was adopted by one of my neighbors that answers the several purposes.



a is a piece of 3-8 rod iron, 12 inches long. At the lower end it is split about an inch up, and each prong hammered out to the size and thickness of a 25 cent piece.

b is a piece of an old saw or scythe blade, 2½ inches broad and 5 inches long. The blade is placed in between the flattened prongs, and secured by two rivets.

c a wooden handle, round, and an inch in diameter.

d toe or point of the knife.

With this knife, a swift hand can cut three to five acres per day.

If the maturing or ripening is anything like uniform or general, the cutting is delayed until the last moment. Practice is required to know when tobacco begins to recede. Should it mature promiscuously or in patches of twenty or more plants, it is cut accordingly. If a general ripening, we take it clean as we go, throwing two rows together. If our cutting is done in the forenoon, the butt ends are placed to point South; if in the afternoon to the Southwest, thus avoiding, to a considerable extent, the liability of sun burning. Having completed the cutting, the sticks are hauled, and so distributed as to allow ten plants to each. After it has become sufficiently pliable or wilted to handle, which it will do in two or three hours, if the weather is dry, we take our little portable stands or racks, and pass from stick to stick, placing the tobacco upon them as we wish it to hang in the barn, carefully lifting it from the stand and laying it upon the ground with the butts pointing as above stated.

The sticking being completed, the tobacco is conveyed to the barn upon a frame (not unlike a hay frame); it is three feet high, three and a half feet wide and twenty feet long; from seventy to eighty sticks can be hung upon it, which is a pretty fair load for a yoke of good cattle. From the wagon, or rather from the top of the frame, by placing a board across, the tobacco can be handed up and hung upon the fifth tier by two hands. We place the sticks in the barn from eight to ten inches apart, and fire but little, and then only in damp weather, during the curing season.

Were we to grow tobacco in old and manured

lands, the cultivation would be somewhat different, and when housed would fire pretty heavily until cured.

W. S. Carrsville, Ky.

HOW TO MANURE LAND.

First, you want to get the strength of your manure into the soil. When once there, the ground will hold it fast enough. That is the simplicity of the whole matter—get the strength of your manure into the ground. The ground will hold it ready for you as long as you wish—your life-time, if that is necessary—or, if you want it, for your children—or, for that matter, till the latest generation of the world.

Get it into the soil then. How? That is the question. There are a thousand ways to do this: the papers are full of them. Is it necessary here to point out which is best, when everybody has the best way? Let each farmer exercise his own judgment, and see if he cannot ferret out a way that is, perhaps, best of all.

Remember, you do not always want your manure (or the strength of it) deep in the ground. For some soils and grains this is necessary—corn, for instance, that has deep, piercing roots, and requires a loose, airy soil, letting the warmth down to the sub-soil. You generally want it near the surface, or absolutely on it, close as you can get it, the closer the better—if rolled down, all the better.

But we are telling the reader how the thing is done, when we wish only to show him *where* manure is wanted, and then let him seek out a way of his own. Some are for drawing manure in the fall, some in the winter, some in the spring, and, we presume, some (the outsiders), for not drawing it at all. Here, then, is a great diversity: in fact, the whole field is occupied.

Some are for plowing in manure shallow; some deep; some for cultivating it in; some for harrowing, and some for brushing it. All methods are resorted to.

Then, as to the kinds of manure, there is no end; and each must be used in a particular way.

The result is, all kinds, all ways, prosper more or less; for they all, somehow, get the strength of their manure into the ground—just what you, reader, are asked to do.

The fibre of manure (which is not its strength) has an effect. This, properly, comes under another head, but may be here considered. This fibre, it will be seen, acts as a protection against frost; it serves as a winter coat; slight, perhaps, according how it is spread on. If

spread in the fall, it may bring up a growth of grass, which will add to the coat, as well as to the manure, for the strength of the manure (in the grass) did not all come out of the soil, which, in returning, would leave no gain; but it gets much from the atmosphere, which is gain. All these things are facts. Now, let the farmer decide for himself: he has all the data before him. If he cannot decide with all this at hand, he is not fit to be a farmer.

He knows better than any one else what manures he has—barn-yard, night-soil, hog-pen, hennery, bones, carcasses, decayed vegetables, &c.—and what time to best apply it, both with respect to the land wanting to be used, and the time to apply it, the nature of the soil, what grains are to be raised, &c.

Perhaps he has had some experience. This is so much gained. His experience told him, so far as it went, what was good and what was bad. If this agrees with his neighbor's practice, he is confirmed; particularly if the practice is repeated, and agrees with the preceding practice. This is worth all the theory published in a year; and you cannot cheat the farmer out of it if you theorize another year. This is right.

Now, then, we ask the farmer, how will he apply his manure? or, rather, how *has* he applied it? There is nothing like studying a thing out yourself. Then you have got it; that is, the knowledge is yours then. You will be interested in it, and that helps a good deal.

The application of manure is the chief thing in agriculture. To test the matter carefully then is of the first importance. The *saving* of manure precedes the application. And here is the great difficulty: we don't take care of our manures. Look at the liquid that is running from almost every barn-yard you meet. Here the very thing is lost that your soil wants. It need not be rotted; it is ready. It is ready for immediate action upon the plant, for there is no manure like liquid manure. F.G.

GARDENING IN DENMARK.—Graves' recent *Cruise in the Baltic* tells us: "In Copenhagen, every window is filled with pretty flower pots, in which roses, pinks, and fuschias seem to thrive to perfection. These beautiful plants give a neat effect to the fronts of the houses, and tell the passing stranger of the deeply rooted love of flowers which forms part of the national character of the Danes as well as the Swedes."

Peas are supposed to be of Egyptian origin. The garden beans came from the East Indies. Garden cress is from Egypt and the East.

[Written for the Valley Farmer.]
POPULAR SUPERSTITIONS.

BY DR. W. H. DUNSFORD.

Conversing with a lady some time ago, whilst at dinner, I remarked that she seemed abundantly supplied with vegetables. "Yes, sir," she said, "we have good success in gardening, we usually have plenty of garden produce when our neighbors have none." "Pray tell me, madam," I asked, "how you manage to be so successful." "Easily told, sir," she answered—"I sow my seeds, and plant in the dark of the moon" (or light of the said luminary—I beg of your readers not to be offended because I forgot which). I was about to reply very abruptly to such a superstitious doctrine, but a moment's reflection prevented me from rudely committing myself at my hostess' table.

The lady to whom I have reference was educated and intelligent, and I expected to obtain some information that would be beneficial to me and others that do not depend upon markets for our vegetables, but upon our own exertions. I was mistaken. The credit in this case was not given to the individual exertions of those that toiled in the garden—the natural productiveness of the earth—nor to the well rotted manure that was profusely supplied from time to time, making it rich, warm and mellow, but to the sagacity of the fair gardener who examined diligently not an agricultural paper, but an *almanac*, and who, at a certain time of the moon or a particular sign of the zodiac, sowed or planted as the case might be, "taking no further trouble about it, except *keeping it free from weeds, irrigating in drouth and general attention.*"

Here, then, is the secret—good attention. Never mind the moon. Select good seed, manure well, plow deep, pulverize the earth thoroughly, keep it free from weeds, irrigate, and you will have plenty and to spare.

In looking over the list of popular superstitions that pass current in the country, one would think but little progress had been made in eradicating them since Addison ridiculed "gloomy presages" in the *Spectator* nearly one hundred and fifty years ago. I am sure, did that author live now, he would find ample room to exercise his wit and sarcasm by ridiculing them at this enlightened age. Let us review some of them. It is bad luck to spill salt, they tell us, and quote innumerable instances to prove the consequences of such an accident. In removing, to remove the cat is a sure sign you are subjecting yourself to a risk of future evil. To carry fresh meat upon the back of a

mare with foal, is fatal to the colt. To hear one of those little insects at work upon the wood-work of your house, commonly called a death-watch, is a sign that some one won't fare any better for it. A dog howling in the night, is a token that some of the family will die shortly, for according to their foolish notions a howling cur possesses the art of prognosticating the end of his master or one of his master's family. Again to turn back when you have started upon a journey—to cross your knife and fork at meals—certain dreams—each has its punishment or stupid interpretation.

It would be useless to quote all these ridiculous sayings and doings, for it would weary the patience of a man endowed with that virtue equal to Job, to hunt up half of them that they may be exposed and furnish food for merriment for intelligent minds.

There is one more superstitious notion that deserves to be censured more than any one that I have enumerated, that is, "to plant a cedar is sure to bring on the planter some evil: mayhap death." Can anything be more absurd—it looks impossible that people now-a-days will believe such nonsense. You that love green foliage, plant your cedars, pines, spruces and evergreens: never mind the evil consequences, think of the goodly appearance in summer and their cheerful looks in winter: and when, in after years, Our Father shall call you to your eternal home, gay, laughing children, will seek the green foliage of your planting, and lisp a blessing upon the good man that provided them a retreat from the scorching sun and made home so beautiful in winter.

It is very difficult to persuade persons who have been taught these things from childhood, that they are superstitions: yet it would be greater to their credit to discountenance "moonology" in their farming and gardening operations: study agricultural chemistry as taught by Johnston and Liebig, read attentively the experience of successful farmers in some good farm journal, put in practice those principles laid down by them, and trust the rest to the Great Provider of all our wants.

"Visions and magic spells can you despise,
And laugh at witches, ghosts and prodigies."

SEX OF EGGS.—It is stated that the sex of eggs may be determined, so that a person may raise a brood of the sex he wishes. If males are wanted, the longest eggs should be used, if females, those most round should be chosen. Will our readers bear this in mind and try the experiment this spring?

How to Make a Barn-Yard.

The best way, in my opinion, to form a barn-yard for the preservation of manure, without its becoming muddy, where the ground is higher than some of its surrounding parts, is to plow and scrape from the centre to the outside, making a gradual descent from the outside to the centre. Let the fall be one-half foot in ten, and falling a little more as you near the centre to some suitable place without the yard, where you can construct a vat to put in leaves, sods, muck, etc. that will absorb and retain the liquid from the yard. The bottom and sides may be formed of plank, or may be more substantially built of stone and mortar. The top of the vat should be made so as to guard against rains and surface water as much as possible. The drain should fall considerably, and should be made of plank eight inches high and one foot wide inside. The head of the drain should be covered over with a good strong iron grate. The yard ought to be well paved with cobble-stone, and with a little pains you can always have a dry yard. The water from the barn and sheds should never be allowed to run out of the yard, but should be carried by good eave troughs to a large cistern for the purpose of watering stock.
—*Rural New Yorker.*

[Written for the Valley Farmer.]

Why Not Take an Agricultural Paper.

Is not the subject one of sufficient importance to interest you? Is not the practical experience of other farmers of value? Have you attained that degree of perfection in farming that you cannot farther improve by your own or the experience of others?

You answer these questions, except the last, in the affirmative; but you say, "I have not time; if I get time to read the current news of the day, I think I do well."

But, is not agriculture of sufficient importance compared with politics and passing events, so as to justify your giving it at least 1-30th of your reading time? When my boy comes from the post-office with the newspapers and the *Valley Farmer*, I sit down and read the latter named periodical first, and for the following reasons:—

1. Etiquette requires it. If you have two or more visitors, one only able to call once a month and the balance calling once a week; the former able to give you practical advice in your business, whereas the the others only able to amuse or instruct—if these Mr. Weeklies are men of sense, they will excuse you for taking a preference to the conversation of Mr. Monthly, they knowing, that, when he is absent, you give them your undivided attention.

2. Interest requires it, because you may get a practical idea, that you can in your business improve by even the next day; whereas, if a train of cars has run off the track, a steamboat or building destroyed by fire, through the carelessness of others, you could not help it. It may to certain parties be a severe calamity, but the knowledge of it to others is only valuable as one of those lessons of experience by which we may profit.

3. Labor is saved by it. A thrifty farmer has labor daily of a twofold character to perform: Mental—to plan; physical—to accomplish: his success depends as much upon the former as latter. In a practical, agricultural journal, ideas can be gleaned to save much of the former, and occasionally much of the latter.

Lastly, success requires it. The great secret of success, coupled with energy, is: 1. Understand your business; and, 2. Mind your business.

R. W. H.

MORE STOCK.

Too many farmers depend solely upon corn, wheat, hay, tobacco, hemp, or other crops for their revenue. They are selling the fertility, the substance of their soil—their farms. When too late, they will find they have been in error. They should raise more stock, and feed their hay and grain upon their farms, otherwise they will impoverish them. The droppings of animals are of immense value to land. It is only by keeping a fair share of stock that lands can be kept productive. Good stock always commands a good price, and is more profitable to the farmer than grain crops.

ROLLING LAND.

ED. VALLEY FARMER: There are, we presume but few at this time who do not believe in rolling land for nearly all kinds of seed. I know there are many who think they are not able to have a good roller. The old saying is, "necessity is the mother of invention." I constructed a very good substitute. Every farmer can have one by spending a few hours' time. It consists of two logs say eight feet in length. One of these logs is to be six or seven inches in diameter, the other five or six inches. Cut a short distance from the ends of these logs a groove, gutter or notch to extend completely around. Take a draught chain, hook it around one end of the largest log and the other end of the chain to the other end of this same log, and hitch the team to the centre of the chain. The smaller log is fastened by means of ropes or chains at a distance from the larger log.

This does not pack the ground like ordinary rollers. The forward roller breaks the lumps and the hinder one pulverizes them. I think it better for fitting land for small seeds than any other roller. I use it on all spring planting ground and before sowing wheat. It may be in use elsewhere, but not to my knowledge. My neighbors call it a Yankee notion, I being a Yankee.

A. A. B.

Hoyleton, Ill., March 10th, 1864.

WESTERN APIARIAN SOCIETY.

N. J. COLMAN, Esq.—Dear Sir: I wish to say a word in your excellent Journal in favor of establishing a *Western Apiarian Society*. We have already a large and flourishing State Horticultural Society, and have recently established a Western Wool Growers' Association, from which I expect much good to flow.

Now, can we not have an Apiarian Society. Every farmer ought to be interested in Honey Bees! He ought to produce, or have produced enough honey for the wants of his family. He can do this with a very little labor, if he only thinks so. Are there not to be found in every neighborhood persons who make money by keeping bees? And if one man can keep them profitably, cannot another? All that is wanted is a knowledge of the business—and cannot this be acquired like any other knowledge?

Would not the published discussions of an intelligent body of Apianians be of great interest and value to the public generally? Do you not think that there are enough persons interested in the Apiary who would attend a meeting and aid in organizing a society?

I hope, Mr. Colman, you will put your shoulder to the wheel, and help us to get up a Western Apiarian Society. It can be done.

AN APIARIAN.

[REMARKS.—We think such a society can be organized. It should be. Who will aid in organizing it. Let us hear from our readers.—Ed]

TO STOP BLEEDING ON MAN OR BEAST.—A. Kemper, Ross county, Ohio, writes that bleeding from a wound on man or beast may be stopped by a mixture of wheat flour and common salt, in equal parts, bound on with a cloth. If the bleeding be profuse, use a large quantity, say from one to three pints. It may be left for hours, or even days, if necessary. In this manner, he saved the life of a horse which was bleeding from a wounded artery; the bleeding ceased in five minutes after the application. It was left on three days, when it worked loose, was easily removed from the wound, which very soon healed.

AGRICULTURAL ITEMS.

These items are intended for farmers who farm with judgment.

TOP-DRESSING.—The rage now is, to apply manure on the top and permit the weather to have an effect upon it, even if plowed in. The rage seems to be a true one; for the ground attracts the gases as well as the atmosphere, and some soils (clay soils) much more. But it must be finely spread and closely hug the ground. One of my neighbors applied it in lumps (cow dung), and received little benefit—the air got the rest: whereas, had it been pulverized and made to lie snug on the ground, the strength would have gone into the ground. This is the practice of our best agriculturists.

A LITTLE DEEPER PLOWING.—To plow a little deeper than common, is to bring up a little fresh ground with the original strength in it. If your top-soil is worth anything, your under soil is worth more; because no strength has been taken from it. Of course, if your top-soil is made soil, the thing is different. With us of the West, the under-soil is best. But do not plow deeper just before you sow. The weather must have an effect upon your new soil brought up, just as upon manure; for there is apt to be undecomposed matter. The sun and rain will do that. Plow in the fall or winter or early spring. One inch deeper will do at one plowing. In sandy or loamy soil, a little deeper will not hurt; but clay should never be plowed too deep at a time.

ASHES ON MEADOWS.—In applying ashes on our meadows, the difficulty is, we do not apply enough; a few bushels only (to the acre)—when from ten to twenty-five should be used. This will bring the meadows. Apply it in the fall or early spring. Fresh cow manure applied at the same time, and in good quantity, is among the very best of things for any kind of meadow.

HOW TO RAISE CABBAGE.—An old, successful raiser of cabbage, says hen dung is the best thing for this plant—hen dung and plenty of water. He mixes hen dung with new milk and soaks his seed in it for half a day, then sows, and when large enough transplants in a bed enriched with hen manure and ashes—unleached are preferred. It is known to every one that the cabbage is a water loving plant. It also likes cool weather, though it will grow well in warm weather with plenty of rain. We have known cabbage raised in almost miraculous quantity on the north side of buildings in rich soil. A barn is a good spot: so is a hog pen.

THE ARTICHOKE.—The cheapest and best way to plant this valuable esculent, according to my observation, is this:

Procure the roots, and with a common weeding hoe plant three or four hills in every fence corner and around every tree and stump on the plantation; keep stock away from these hills one year. The result will be as follows: Farmers will be prepared to keep fat hogs, thriving sheep, and, by pickling the root, like the cucumber, to have an excellent article for the table. And more, the hogs, by rooting, will keep the fence corners and around the trees and stumps clear of weeds, thus saving much labor and time. There will also be saved the trouble of planting every year; for enough "eyes" and roots will always be left for each succeeding year, and yet the plant does not spread to the injury of other growth on the land. I have seen the experiment tried, and can heartily recommend it.—*Cor. Rural American.*

ABOUT PEAS.—Pea straw is the great manurer—it also mellows the soil by simply growing it upon the soil, shading it during the summer, and drawing strength from the atmosphere, especially when plaster is used—a very little will affect the crop. When turned under as a green crop, nothing is better than pea straw. Sow on light soil with plaster, and on rich soil without the dust. Pour boiling water on the seed before sowing, and soak a few hours. This will destroy the bug, and prevent its future propagation. Sow from two to three bushels to the acre, according to the size of the pea, and sow late if you wish to get out of the way of the insect: say, the last of June or first of July. Always plow under a few inches. The seed will then be safe from drouth. We sow peas on our poorest soils to improve the land, even if the crop is taken off. There are, we fear, not enough peas sown.

TO WORKERS IN WOOD—Worms Eating Timber. "Messrs. Champion, of our village," says a correspondent, "by accident, once kept their hickory wood wet for several months during the warm weather before they used it. This soured the wood, they hold, and no worm ever touched it. They have, for years, acted on this principle with perfect success.

HOW TO BUY A FARM.—Get some one to buy it for you. Let it be a man who is perfectly conversant with farms and farming, if possible; and your friend. Two indispensables. You then employ the intellect of another, instructed ready to hand. It would be, in effect, as if yourself were the man. You will then get a good bargain; better than you, yourself, can buy. It is so in the various departments of life.

WHEY IN MAKING CHEESE.—The rennet must have acid to aid coagulation. If the milk does not contain the acid (and new milk does not), then it must be added. Whey will answer for this purpose. It is used in early spring when the temperature is low, so that the milk changes but little from the purely sweet state. A little whey kept on hand; kept till somewhat more acid than fresh whey; mixed, say one quart of whey to a hundred or a hundred and twenty of milk. This will make the cheese solid as in summer. Pure, sweet milk, without acid, will make it soft, and just the thing that we find it in early spring. The great majority of our cheese-makers are not aware what is the difficulty. A little whey added will avoid all this.

RHUBARB VINEGAR.—By those who have used it, rhubarb vinegar is said to be as good as cider vinegar. Add a pound, or more, of sugar to a gallon of the juice, and set where warm.

RHUBARB WINE.—In some parts of the country the rhubarb plant is sold as the "Wine Plant," and the people are terribly humbugged by the imposition. There is no such thing as the Wine Plant. The plant which is furnished by that name is the pure rhubarb. Besides, the great quantities of wine which are reported to be made from this herb, are exaggerated. It is true that the juiciness of the plant is favorable to a large yield, but not by any means to the fabulous fortunes which are reported even by Solon Robinson of the *N.Y. Tribune*.

Another point: The wine, which is very highly recommended (and it is said even by physicians and surgeons in the army) is, we need not say, not wine, as the grape alone will produce that, and even cheaper, as sugar is a great item of expense in the acid plant. The wine is like all the various domestic wines, injurious rather than beneficial. The grape is both cheap and healthful. There is no humbug here.

PUMP FOR A DEEP WELL.—Some one inquires for a pump for a well 45 feet deep. The savans of the Farmers' Club of New York answer:—There is an iron pump that will work in a well of any depth, and won't freeze nor cost ten cents a year to keep in repair, known as West's improved pump.

SWEET FLAG FOR WOUNDS.—The Dutch folk of Fordsboro', apply sweet flag to the wounds of their horses and cattle with great advantage. It is a common practice among them.

We generally plant too close together.

COWS REQUIRE OILY MATTER IN THEIR FOOD.

—Linseed contains a great amount of oil, and a little of it may be made of great benefit to cows giving milk. Count Pinto, whose celebrated cow Black Tette made 27 lbs. of butter per week, advises linseed to be given, not only to cows but to calves. After the calf is weaned, the fatty substance which it obtained from the milk, must be continued, and nothing is so good as linseed. He fed 7 lbs. daily to his cow. Boil the linseed and mix some of it with the meal which is fed. This will do where the oil cake cannot be obtained. This theory, which is thoroughly practiced by the Count, has always been more or less combatted, till Dr. Ku-ku set the matter at rest.

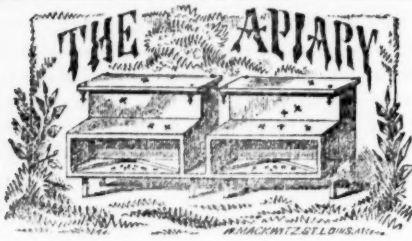
[Written for the Valley Farmer.]

How to Dispose of Pomace.

The time will soon come in the West, when Cider will be one of our products. I do not design to tell how apples can be scratched in pieces as fast as one man can shovel them with a scoop, or how to compress the juice. But, if you ever make cider, locate on a side hill, as it is easier to do your work; let your apples occupy the higher point; your mill, 2d; press, 3d; and, 4th, a tight plank floor—the lowest—on which to cast your pomace as it comes off the press. On the lower side of this floor place a long trough or tight box, under the eaves of the pomace floor, to catch cider vinegar. After you throw off the pomace, if not blessed with sufficient rain, moisten down with water. In due time you can leach off one-half the amount of good vinegar your pomace produced of pure cider. Then you can pan out the pile for the seed—if you do not, the pigs will, if they have a chance; the balance compost with your manure, adding one barrel of lime and ashes, equal parts, to the load or solid yard. R.W.H.

HEDGE PLANTS.—*Ed. Valley Farmer:* In your October number of last year, you speak of the Buckthorn and the Blackthorn as being good for hedges. Now, I suppose the Buckthorn is what we call at the North the Thorn apple tree and produces large red berries, that are good to eat. The Blackthorn, a somewhat smaller bush with a smaller berry of an oblong shape and not good to eat. Of these I have saved a lot to plant, but upon breaking the seed I doubt as to their germinating without extra help: the meat is encased in a very hard shell. There are two seeds generally in each berry, and if this is the Blackthorn of which you speak, and you can give me any information on preparing the seed to germinate, your will oblige, W. CONGER.

[REPLY.—The seed will germinate after being planted two years.]



HONEY BEES.

What I regard as the most favorable condition for a stock of bees in spring is, first, a populous colony with a fertile young queen; next, abundance of clean worker combs, with a sufficiency (and not much more) of stores to feed themselves and their young, until the flowers will again supply them. Such a stock is likely to swarm early, and may swarm often if not prevented. Let us suppose its first swarm to issue on the first of May; the old queen with, say, three-fourths of the workers, have deserted the old hive to form the swarm, leaving behind a newly-hatched and unimpregnated queen, one-fourth of the old bees, and many of the combs nearly filled with young bees; ten days later another swarm issues, accompanied by the first hatched young queen, which probably at the time of her departure has laid but few, if any eggs, in the combs of the old hive, and leaves behind her a young and as yet an unfertile queen, no brood, and but a fourth part of a swarm of bees, which may become populous enough for wintering by the time the honey season has passed. The two swarms consume nearly all they gather, during the first month or six weeks, in building combs and feeding the brood (with which they fill their combs as fast as built); by the middle or last of June, they are both populous, but have but little honey stored in advance; the old stock is perhaps in a similar condition, except that its population is smaller; if, at this time, further swarming takes place, and the pasturage should be cut off suddenly by drouth, as has sometimes occurred, the whole may perish before the advent of another honey season.—[Co. Gent.]

A writer in the *Ohio Farmer* says:

Bees, in winter, do not apparently suffer from cold, even when many degrees below the freezing point. Their great enemy is damp. I have known hives from which the bottom board had fallen, and which were fully exposed to the air, winter well, while others, carefully tended, lost thousands of bees, and yet both had sufficient stores.

Hives, made of thin boards, are bad quarters for bees, unless well ventilated, and for the simple reason that when such are exposed to the weather, they part rapidly with their warmth in cold weather, and unless carried off by currents of air, the moisture from the bees condenses on the inside and then congeals; and this process will go on until the comb next the sides is involved, and the bees are consequently huddled together in an ice house. When combs are thus frozen or kept steadily exposed to an atmosphere of moisture for some time, they will mold whenever the weather becomes warm. It often happens that the principal portion of the honey is laid up in the outer combs, and if these are frozen the bees cannot get their food, and may thus starve with food abundant, but locked up in frost.

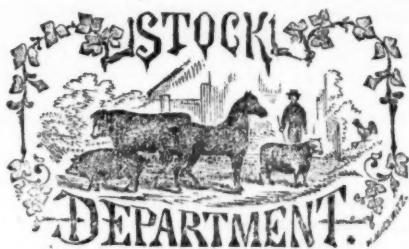
Bees in the natural state do not provide ventilation; but they secure themselves against the effects of changes of temperature by selected positions entirely or almost impervious to frost in winter or undue heat in summer. The wood of living trees and walls of some cavity in a rock, are poor conductors of caloric, and very unlike our boxes, whatever may be the patent.

All my hives are well ventilated, and the bees thrive well in them. The only mold that ever injured a hive of mine, was in one that stood on the north side of a tight board fence and was shaded by trees.

The great points in wintering bees, in my opinion, is to keep dry and give air.

BEES ROBBERING.—When bees are robbing, close the entrance so nearly that but one bee at a time can escape. At sundown remove the hive to a secure place well darkened, and keep there for a week. This will get the robber bees used to the new neighbors, and they will work and remain with them. This should be done only when the swarm is overcome by the robbing bees. Otherwise leave the swarm on the stands, with the entrance hole nearly closed. In such a condition they will fight their way through.

TREATMENT OF BEE STINGS.—Many persons suffer so little from bee stings, that they fear them no more than mosquito bites, and this is usually the case with our most successful aparians. Others suffer severely: the slightest sting produces large swelling and great pain. In such cases, Dr. Latour proposes the following treatment: 1. To pull out the sting, which generally remains in the wound. 2. To bathe the place with ice-water, or else acetate of lead or ammonia. 3. To apply an impenetrable coating of collodion, rendered elastic by the addition of one-tenth part of castor oil, whereby the production of heat in the living tissue is prevented and inflammation avoided.



Trotting Horses—Breeding, Etc.

As the disease called "horse on the brain," seems to prevail as an epidemic, I have thought a few suggestions which might serve to ameliorate the malady, would be acceptable to your readers. While I admit my love of the horse, I have never had that admiration for the trotter which many others possess. I like a good, fleet roadster; but to me it looks like degradation to compare the stylish thorough-bred with the cold-blood, sluggish trotter. The admirers of the roadster may consider this remark invidious. It is not, I assure them, no offence is intended. My object is to impress on the minds of stock raisers the vast importance of having infused in their stock more pure blood, and less of what is known among sportsmen as "dung-hill" crosses, and to give to the roadster gentlemen a higher order of horse; faster and more enduring animals worthy their attention.

I do not deny the fact that there have been many fast trotters and good race horses (at short distances) that were far from being thorough-bred; and to the fact that they had an infusion of pure blood, are they indebted for their speed and lasting qualities. It may be urged that there are fast trotters that have not one drop of pure blood coursing through their veins. This proposition is not admitted to be true; yet if it were, it would not prove anything, as all general rules have their exceptions. The experience of the best breeders both in England and America is, that the best stock for the road (saddle and general purposes) is the three-quarter thorough-bred. He is almost certain to possess good action, style, courage, endurance and docility; all essential qualities; and the horse that does not possess them is of but little value.

The importance of improving the blood of the roadster, is being duly appreciated by the breeders of the country, and experience has proven that the predominance of thorough-bred blood, insures the fastest and best roadsters. It is a grand mistake to suppose that a cold-blooded stallion, because he is himself a fast trotter, will beget fast colts; the speed of such a horse is the result of chance, and if any of his get should prove fast, it would be purely accidental. Every one of experience knows that, as a general rule, base bred horses are deficient in action, speed, and lasting qualities.

The best common stallion ever brought to this State, was old "St. Lawrence." He was a horse of great speed, large and stout. He made

two seasons in St. Louis county, and had returned to him about one hundred and forty foals, now seven and eight years old. No horse ever came with a better reputation. He had the choice of the best mares of the country, and high expectations were entertained that his offspring would show great speed. What has been the result? With every possible advantage, not one of his get has, so far as I know, won a race or shown any extra speed. Yet they are all good road horses—kind in harness, rather small but stout, and for general use are excellent horses. If the owners of "St. Lawrence" would stint them to a good stallion of Albion, Lexington or Glencoe, they might reasonably expect to obtain good roadsters, the fillies produced by this cross, bred to a stout, thorough-bred stallion, would insure the very class of horses above all others most desirable for speed, style and endurance.

The next experiment in the way of cold-blooded stallions was the two imported by the late lamented Charles Semple, Esq., "Black Hawk Prince" and "Morgan Hunter," both thorough-breds (save the mark) of their class. These stallions were selected by Mr. S. in Vermont, the best he could find, and purchased at high figures. They made several seasons in St. Louis, had the very best trotting and well bred mares the country could furnish, and as many as they could serve—yet, out of all of their get, I have not heard of a single winner or even a fair roadster, although many are now five and six years old. Considering the number of fine mares stunted to them, it seems strange that not one should have turned out a trumper. It would have been a difficult matter to have selected two stallions with such mares stunted to them, that would not have produced some fast colts and fillies. Both Hunter and Prince were large, stylish, and said to be fast trotters; their get are small, common in appearance, and deficient in action, thus showing the absurdity of expecting fine stock from cold-blooded stallions.

It is a cause of rejoicing to know that Messrs. Kelly & Co., Capt. Hutchinson and others, of St. Louis, with an enterprise and judgment highly creditable to them, have imported into this State quite a number of the finest stallions and mares in America. These gentlemen are interested largely in fine stock, and it is to be hoped they will set their faces against the frauds practiced by the owners of base bred stallions, in palming their coarse horses off as well bred. The man who would knowingly give a false pedigree, is infinitely more dishonest than the thief who picks your pocket, and the wrong he does is more serious than any committed by the common thieves, who are so much detested by all honest men.

Many gentlemen who advocate the claims of the lower class of horses for roadsters, have stated that through-bred have not proven themselves fast trotters. This, to some extent, may be true, yet it does not refute my position. The fact must be admitted that very few have ever been trained to harness. Of the number that have been, there are quite as many in proportion of fast ones as of any other class of

horses. But my proposition is, that the three-quarter thorough-bred is the very best blood for the roadster. The races over the Woodlawn course for 1863, an account of which was published in *Wilkes' Spirit of the Times* under date of February 20th, 1864, show pretty conclusively that "blood will tell;" and the very class of horses I have urged as the best, carried off the purses; and the time made, will compare favorably with any on record, of colts and fillies of the same age. A reference to the report will show that three-year olds out of thorough-bred mares, trotted low down in the fifties. In the veins of these colts and fillies, flow the pure blood of American Eclipse and Glencoe infused with that of the "Pilot" family—the latter believed to be the best strain of trotting horses in America.

It is gratifying to the lovers of the truly fine horse to know that the base blood, heretofore so abundant in this State, is rapidly disappearing, and pure streams have begun to flow in our midst. We have had sad experience in the way of "Morgan" and "Black Hawk" thorough-breds. It will require but a few years and a little attention on the part of stock raisers to improve the race of horses as to get rid of the miserable scrubs with which our State has been cursed.

I read a very sensible article by "Ripton" in *Wilkes' Spirit*, under date of February 14th, 1861, in which he speaks as follows: "Almost every gray horse or mare in the country that shows any speed, is dubbed 'Messenger' forthwith, and I am of the opinion that a similar delusion to that which prevailed among the Pennsylvania Dutchmen as to the longevity of Gen. Jackson, possesses some. They think that the old horse is still alive and getting colts. This same error of taking good breed for granted, because the animal is said to have come, even if remotely, from some noted horse, especially pervades as regards the 'Morgan' and 'Black Hawk' stock, so called. It is quite certain that 'Messenger,' 'Trustee' and the like, had good blood at first to transmit their produce, which, however, since diluted and degraded, has probably retained some of its original properties. It is equally certain that the 'Justin Morgan' horse and the original 'Black Hawk', had not the blood which maintains its own excellence for many generations when preserved, and improves for several generations the progeny of the coarser breed with which it is crossed. The consequence is, that though the error is more widely spread as regards the descendants of these two sires than any other, it does no more harm. If you have but a fractional part of the blood of 'Sir Archy,' 'Messenger,' or 'Trustee,' it will not do much good, but you cannot have too little of that which flowed in the veins of Justin Morgan's horse and old 'Black Hawk.' There are now some pretty good horses comprised by their owners in those denominations, but the opinion of those I have talked with on the road and in the stable, upon the subject, is, that the good ones have been improved and fined by the blood of the mares, ignorantly put to these coarse,

chunky horses. I agree with this opinion. I have seen several of the boasted 'Green Mountain Morgans,' imported to the West, and they are more like grizzly bears than high bred horses in make."

The above quotation shows pretty conclusively in what light "Ripton" views the "Black Hawks" and "Morgans," and I venture the assertion that every well-informed, impartial stock raiser will indorse as correct every word he has said on the subject.

I have understood that quite a number of thorough-bred stallions will take position in this county the ensuing season. It is to be hoped that those having mares to breed, will avail themselves of the services of these fine horses.

VIAMETER.

P.S.—Since writing the above, I have been told that the services of the horses, "Stone Plover," "Jack Malone," "Criton," and "Waterloo," will be offered the people of St. Louis the present year.

THE IMPORTED THOROUGHBRED STALLION "STONE PLOVER."

[Bred by the Right Honorable Earl Spencer, Northamptonshire, England, in 1850; Ran for the Derby in England in 1853; and imported by his present owner, Thomas Williams, of Michigan.]

The following is a private letter, received from R. F. Johnstone, Esq., Editor of the *Michigan Farmer*, and Secretary of the Michigan State Agricultural Society. It was written in reply to a letter which we wrote to Mr. Johnstone, as we thought of breeding to "Stone Plover," but did not wish to do so until we learned the true character of his stock. It is hardly necessary to say that Mr. Johnstone is one of the most reliable of men, and one of the best judges of all kinds of stock, in the State of Michigan.

DETROIT, April 10, 1864.

N. J. COLMAN, Esq. — Dear Sir: Your letter informing me that Mr. Thomas Williams was at St. Louis, with his horse "Stone Plover," is just received. I am very glad to hear it, whilst, as a Michigan man, I regret that our breeders here have not the common sense to appreciate that horse as he ought to be. You ask me if I have seen his colts. Yes, I have no hesitation in saying that I have seen more colts of his than any other one man in this State. I do not know of a colt of his that has been decently treated by the breeder that is not a good one, or promises to be not only a good horse but a *grand* one, and by that I mean a horse that, for style, action, size and general beauty, approaches more nearly to perfection than we see in any other.

"Stone Plover" has had the chance to get but one or two thorough-breds, but only one of these has as yet reached racing age; she prom-

ies to be a first-class. She is out of a mare bred by Henry Clay, named Madeline. Last fall I saw this filly, only three years old, run two heats of a mile and win in a canter, beating her competitor. The first heat was run in 1.50 and the second in 1.49, being a distance. She could have run either heat in at least 3 to 4 seconds less had she been pressed to do it, and then she carried eight pounds over weight, and lost by not starting at the word fully six to eight rods.

Mr. Willcox of this place has four half-bred fillies of his get that he has selected as brood mares, each of which is stamped with all the color and points of the horse; but you know that from common mares, no thorough-bred horse can be judged fully as to color and all other points. Nearly all his colts are of his own rich color—a few are not.

There is not any imported stallion in the United States that I think is so highly bred, and is certainly of the very highest type of the improved thorough-bred as this "Stone Plover." He comes of a large stock, and all winners on both sides, as you may note by his pedigree, which is true, as I can most positively affirm. Cotherstone, Touchstone, Slane, being his immediate progenitors, and he himself being the own brother to the winner of the Two Thousand Guinea purse in 1853. I am sure that you can with the most perfect confidence commend him to the breeders in St. Louis, for he is just what he is claimed to be, neither more nor less. I am, with great respect, yours truly,

R. F. JOHNSTONE.

A Mr. A. D. Power, has three stud colts bred from one bay Messenger Mare, and all of them have the power, substance and limbs of powerful make which belong only to first-class horses, while in color and form they are all matched—a splendid blood bay. I think you will find that whatever he gets will show great qualities. I do not know that they will make immediately the very fastest trotters, because that is a gait which has to be trained into the half bred stock; but it is out of such stock that we get the stride and lasting powers that make the first class trotters. You will note that for beauty of head and neck he is unequalled, while, for immense loin and quarters, he excels even the very best and most famous thorough-breds of Kentucky. In this I consider him superior to Sovereign or Scythian, or even to Lexington, and those quarters are points that he seems to give peculiarly to his stock. A half-bred colt of his three years old, out of a common mare,

ran a mile on our track here last fall in 1.50. I feel very certain that if your breeders give his colts half a chance, and don't attempt to bring them forward too early, they will be well satisfied. The early maturity of the Morgan stock, has got a great many full of the idea, that they expect a horse's ability out of a two and three years' old. Large stock must have age to get hardened, before you can look for performances that are only to be had from old horses. R.F.J.

USEFUL RECEIPTS.

Astringent Drench for Scouring in Calves.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Take of Tincture of Matice, | 1 ounce. |
| " Ginger, | 2 ounces. |
| Powdered Charcoal, | 1 ounce. |
| Lime Water, | $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce. |

Mix, and give 1 table-spoonful twice daily in a gill of boiled cow's milk.

Tonic and Alterative Drench for Cows in a State of Marasmus (Wasting).

Marasmus often terminates fatally among cattle; it is insidious in invasion; slow in its progress; accompanied by loss of flesh, prostration, dullness, loss of hair, blanched mucous surfaces, œdematous swelling of the limbs; diarrhœa; death.

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Tincture of Ginger, | 4 ounces. |
| " Golden Seal, | 6 ounces. |
| Iodide of Potass, | 4 drachms. |
| Water, | 1 quart. |

Directions—Mix the iodide of potass with the water, by shaking them together for a short time, then add the tinctures. *Dose*—1 wine-glassful night and morning.

To Protect Animals Against the Torture of Flies and Insects.

Take of Walnut leaves and the leaves of Lobelia, of each 4 ounces, add 1 gallon of boiling water; let the mixture stand until cool, then express the fluid through cotton cloth, and add 4 ounces of the tincture of aloes.

Directions—Apply a small quantity of this compound daily to the surface of the body by means of a sponge.

Antidote for the Bite or Sting of Venomous Reptiles.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Plantain Leaves (Plantago Major), | 4 ounces. |
| Lobelia Leaves, | 2 ounces. |
| Boiling Water, | 1 quart. |

Directions—When the mixture becomes cool, bind a quantity of the herb on the affected part, and give the animal, as a drench, four or five ounces of the remaining fluid, every four hours.—*Stock Jour.*

Mr. Bushnell, of Springfield, Mass., in some remarks at an agricultural discussion, said that wool, by keeping it over a year, would gain more in weight than enough to pay the interest on the value of the whole.

Sheep Raising Multum Inparvo.

ED. VALLEY FARMER: With the view, some day or other, of sharing with my neighbors the profits of sheep raising; and while in pursuit of information on the subject, I have dotted down the following items, some of which may be useful to them as well as myself, communicated to me by a gentleman of large experience, living in Ohio, who says:

"The beginner should purchase, say, 400 ewes, two years old; put three bucks to the 100 ewes in November. Select bucks from different flocks. Make sheds to shelter them, 60x20 feet to the 100 sheep. Keep a separate shed for weak or diseased sheep. Keep sheds well littered to keep wool clean. Salt once a week in dry weather—one quart of salt, mixed in bran, to the 100 sheep.

"Tag in November, and in the spring (say 15th April) soak tags in tubs or barrels, and wash and sack for market. Sell ewes at four years old and wethers at three years old. Keep sheep in good condition always. Change entire stock every five years, if practicable."

Now, I am well aware all the above and much more can be obtained from the books, but I know very well that very many persons will not take the trouble to get them, and they may get the *Valley Farmer*. J. A. P.

GOOD MILKERS.

It is an easy matter to distinguish a good milker. The farthest removed from the bull the better. As the male has no milking properties, and the female is devoted to them: and none so much as the cow; so we are to judge from this principle.

No person of ordinary intelligence would select a cow with thick neck, heavy bones, and a bull-like disposition. On the other hand, the true cow, the good milker, is easily known by its thin neck, sometimes almost amounting to deformity (the case with one of ours); small bones; thin, sensitive hide; thin tail; and (most of all) a mild, placid disposition, showing absence of animal heat, which consumes, or prevents milk from forming. A quiet, motherly face, denoting intelligence and domesticity, is what is wanted. The reservoir of milk, of course, must be large, or there cannot be stored a large quantity. A large, well-formed bag, therefore is a necessity. A small udder is an invariable sign of a poor milker. The form and size of a cow are not always to be depended upon. The disposition is perhaps as much, if not more, than any other one point; some say

than all other points. We remember a heavy-headed, coarse bodied cow, but with the mildest of dispositions, as one of the best butter makers we know. A good eater, always healthy. She made during the month of June, 15 lbs. of the best butter a week; and gave a good flow of milk nearly the year round. Avoid the bull, and seek the farthest opposite qualities for the best milker.

CARROTS FOR HORSES.

It is said by some, that carrots are better for horses than for any other animal. We know not how this is. But we do know that those who make use of them—so far as our own observation goes—always speak favorably of them. There is some nutrition in carrots, which is beneficial. But this is not the main thing. Carrots act as therapeutic agent. As lime has an effect upon soil, aside from its fertility, so carrots act as a medicine. Where the contents of the bowels are watery, the pectic acid of the carrot gelatinizes it, and arrests the too free flow. It is also held, that digestion is aided by the use of carrots. Of course, they are only to be used as an adjunct, an aid with other food, and not the principal food. Too many carrots is not good: all carrots will not do. The medicinal effect will be too great—and there will not be sufficient nutrition in carrots alone. But mix with hay and oats daily a little, or several times a week. This will keep the bowels in tone, and invigorate the system by the farther aid which digestion receives. The coat will become loose and shining, the eye bright, and the horse what a horse should be for general use.

DOCTORING SICK ANIMALS.

CATTLE.

If the ten rules already given are carefully observed, cattle will scarcely ever become diseased; and if they do, immediately examine to see if some of these rules are not broken. The following remedies may be applied in case of a few of the more common diseases.

HORN AIL.

The symptoms are dullness, failure of appetite, giddiness, failure of flesh, the horn generally feels cold. The head and not the horn merely is diseased. Boring is generally of no use, and can only give temporary relief where there is a pressure of matter in the horns. Hornless cows have it sometimes. It generally occurs to animals in low condition, with deranged digestive organs. The best remedies are to keep them in a warm shelter, and give warm,

nourishing and stimulating food. If the animal should happen to be in high condition, feed lightly. Most of the remedies have their reputation because they did not prevent natural recovery.

GARGET, OR CAKING OF THE BAG.

Let the calf suck, after having drawn off a part of the milk; and if there is any danger of matter forming, rub the udder with a liniment of equal parts of goose oil and hot drops. If painful, wash with weak lye. It is very important always afterwards to milk very clean. Avoid high or stimulating food.

HOVEN.

Occasioned by eating too much fresh clover, or other green food. The preventive is caution in turning into fresh pastures—allowing but a short time at first. In mild cases, a cure may be effected by a quart of saleratus water; in severe and threatening ones, a penknife must be thrust into the paunch, through the skin, two or three inches forward of the hip bone.

FOUL IN THE FOOT,

Caused by standing long in filth, may be cured by removing to a dry, clean place, washing with soap, then with chloride of lime, and applying curriers' oil. Washing with salt and water, is useful.

LICE.

Wash the skin morning and night, with a decoction of two ounces of lobelia seeds in one quart of boiling water; after standing two hours, apply with a sponge.

CHOKED CATTLE,

May be relieved, when the obstruction is high, by thrusting the arm at full length down and seizing it with the fingers. To prevent the animal biting dangerously, pass the arm through a wheel box or clevis, held firmly in the mouth; or still better, through a wooden box made on purpose, with projecting ends to hold by. If far down, the obstruction may be pushed down with a flexible stick with a round, soft knob.

TO PREVENT A COW SUCKING HERSELF.

Thrust a hickory stick 8 inches long, and half an inch in diameter, through a slit made in the nose, so that the stick may project each way horizontally. If the stick is a little smaller at the centre, it will not come out.—[*Ex.*]

HOW TO MAKE A STOCK POND.—A subscriber sends the following: "Select a site near the head of a ravine (clay soil), so that the natural surface of from one to three acres will drain the water to it. Scoop out sufficient soil to form a dam, at least three feet wide on the top, with sloping sides inside and out. The depth of the pond if five or six feet, will be sufficient to supply any ordinary farm stock the year round.—An open tube of plank one foot square and eight feet long, placed near the top of the embankment, will carry off the surplus water."

VEGETABLES FOR CATTLE.

All Kinds of Vegetables, such as Carrots, Turnips, Potatoes, &c., when offered as Food for Cattle, should be sliced or bruised.—Many valuable animals of the bovine species die, accidentally, in consequence of devouring greedily, and without mastication, one of the above vegetable productions; occasionally, however, an unmasticated apple is the cause of the difficulty.

In view therefore of preventing the accident of choking, which results from swallowing a substance too large for the capacity of the esophagus, or gullet, I advise husbandmen to slice, bruise, or grind the same; for when a large foreign body of the above kind becomes firmly lodged in the gullet, it cannot easily be removed without endangering the life of the animal.

The primary act of mastication in cattle is not always of a very thorough character; the stomach is often called upon to perform labor which properly belongs to the teeth; the old story is, that the domesticated bovine is an indifferent masticator, and the act is a careless affair; therefore, all food of the above character should be artificially prepared.—[*Ex.*]

Queries—Sheep Experience.

ED. VALLEY FARMER: I would like to ask a few questions. Which is the best time to set out apple trees, in the spring or fall? Which are the best winter varieties for market. I have about 100 bearing trees, and wish to put out some more. I think I have a good situation for an orchard, it is rolling land and inclines to the south, and is a clay loam. What trees I have, look very fine and healthy. Can mutton be salted down in the fall and used as corned beef? I am satisfied that mutton can be made cheaper than beef, and if it is good corned down, it is far preferable.

I give you my experience with sheep in the last two years. I commenced with three Leicesters, one buck and two ewes; and about fifty common ewes. Cost me \$200. First year, I sold \$200 worth of wool and lambs, and kept five or six lambs to eat. This year, so far, I have raised sixty-five lambs from forty of the ewes. I commenced the winter feeding wheat straw, but that soon gave out, and then I fed corn fodder, corn and all. My sheep have had no shelter, except the brush on a friendly hillside. I hope to have better accommodations for them next winter. But they have paid a good per cent. on their cost. J. B. PARKER.

Marine, Madison Co. Ill. April 14th, 1864.

[REPLY.—On ground properly prepared and not too wet, we would prefer fall planting. If the proper care is used in planting, it matters little whether trees are planted in fall or spring. The main thing is that it should be well done. After the trees are planted, the ground about them should be kept properly pulverized. This is the great secret in growing an orchard. In a late number of the "Valley Farmer" you will find a list of Winter varieties, recommended by the Mo. State Hort. Society; perhaps that is better than one we would recommend. Mutton can be salted down like beef, or dried like beef. There is one advantage in having sheep, you can kill one at any time and with little trouble, and, with a little care, the mutton can all be consumed before it spoils. Sheep should be kept by every farmer for fresh meat, if for no other purpose.—Ed.]



HORTICULTURAL.

[Written for the Valley Farmer.]

A Description of Some of Our Grape Vines.

BY LOUIS L. KOCH, GOLCONDA, ILL.
LENOIR.

I obtained this grape from Hermann, Mo., and the Herbmont from Cincinnati, O., both from reliable sources. Both were planted in the same year in the same part of my plantation, and both received the same treatment, yet I could perceive no difference as of distinctly designated kinds. If such a difference does exist (which I am not ready to gainsay), in that case I have received but one of the two kinds, and am therefore unable to give another description of the one or the other than that already given under the head of "Herbmont," it corresponding very considerably too with its descriptions as furnished by others.

Notwithstanding, I am of the opinion that both the Lenoir and Herbmont, from their similarity everywhere admitted, appear identical, and that the presence of the one in a collection renders the other superfluous, if the object be not merely to have the largest possible variety of all the different sorts.

RULANDER.

Of this grape I obtained some cuttings in 1853 from a vineyard in the vicinity of Jeffersonville, Ind., among some Catawba cuttings. From their entire construction, especially the fruit buds being so closely set to each other, I immediately recognized its foreign pedigree. The leaf, as well as the fruit of the grafts raised therefrom, confirmed me in the view I had taken. In Metzger's Botany, containing classified and instructive descriptions of the European grapes, I found it noticed in the second volume on page 917, among the finer wine grapes, by the name of Rulander (red Claven) approaching exceedingly my own observation. My neighbors engaged in Grape Culture and from the "Hardt" on the Rhine near Speyer, whence this grape originates, all unanimously declar-

ed it to be the Rulander, therefore, I believe myself justified to introduce it into my collection by this name, but am ready at any time to submit to any other name *better established*.

Whether it is the Rulander or any other valuable wine grape cultivated on the banks of the Rhine (which latter fact cannot be called in question), it deserves to be highly valued and propagated in our plantations.

Being by no means free from the many accidents which disturb most of the finer grapes, and having been cultivated in this country too short a time to be able to judge of the wine pressed from its grape, we must at present leave it to the further results of grape culture to determine its proper rank in our collections. At any rate, it having undoubtedly been introduced into our vineyards by emigrants from the Rhine some time previous, this Rulander, so far behind the Catawba in regard to the fine appearance of its grapes, was crowded out by the same, and is therefore found but rarely, here and there, and by entirely different names.

Bunch, below medium size, generally single shouldered, obtuse and compact. Berry, rather long, frequently round, dark passing over into a brownish shade, somewhat spotted, of a grey bloom, whereby the entire grape receives color; of a thin skin; flesh, tender, sweet and agreeable, without any acid. Growth, very strong, but little behind the Herbmont in this respect. Vine, light brown, fruit buds very shortly set. Foliage, three-lobed, obtusely indented, slightly serrated, more obtuse than acute, brilliant green.

When in bloom, the grape suffers much by rainy weather, the berries are unevenly set, the smaller of them will stay green and render the harvest difficult. It is also visited by the same diseases noticed of the Herbmont, very frequently reducing its yield considerably. This difficulty, however, seems to be the effect of particular localities, as among my plants I have observed the most varied results.

From the extraordinary sweetness of the grapes, maturing at the same time with the Catawba, they are generally much injured by the birds, and require on this account special attention during the time of ripening.

The wine is of a pale yellow with the most popular of the Rhine wines, but of more strength and sweetness, although too predominantly musky for wine judges when in its first years, and, which is quite remarkable, such is not the case with the berries ripened, whence I infer that this musky flavor will be less perceptible as the wine grows older.

NORTON'S VIRGINIA.

Changed to "Reed Diamond of Hermann" some years ago in Hermann, Mo., still lengthening out its former name "Norton's Virginia Seedling," if possible. While gratefully acknowledging the merits of the discoverer of this remarkable vine, the first name "Virginia," seems, according to my opinion, sufficiently to designate it.

This Norton's Virginia was raised by Norton at Flushing's Garden, New Jersey, whence Mr. Widersprecher fetched several cuttings to Missouri, planted at first by Mr. Jacob Rommel, in Hermann, in the year 1846. The first wine from it was obtained in 1848, then already pointing to its great superiority, and which its further culture has rendered beyond all doubt.

Bunch, of a medium size, rather running to a point, compact, and berries closely set. Berry, below medium size, round, dark blue, with a light blue bloom when fully ripe; strong skin; pretty large seed, but by no means devoid of juice; ripens perfectly even on one and the same branch. Has naturally red juice, which when pressing colors the hand, and would thus furnish claret, without fermentation on its lees. Growth, luxuriant and strong. Vine, of a chestnut brown, and perfectly hardy.

I was sorry to hear from Bloomington, that in the dreadful night from the 31st Dec. '63 to the 1st Jan. '64, the thermometer standing 29° below zero, the vine froze down to the root, while mine, in the same night, thermometer 19° below zero, fully resisted any injury whether of the young or of the old wood, except that of the fruit buds yet to be determined.

Foliage, up to the time of frost, of a brilliant dark green, three lobed, deeply serrated, and more long than wide. Bears largely, and is free from all diseases.

This splendid grape meets, in our part of the country, every requirement, which, without exceeding the limits of its own "naturel," can at all be demanded. Hardy against the wintry frost (winters like that in the beginning of the year cannot here be noticed), growing strongly even in poorer soil; fruit in abundance; not endangered by any of those diseases so common to all its associates; quite commendable for table use, but still more suited to wine purposes. I accord to the Norton's Virginia quite exclusively for the latter object, the foremost rank of all the grapes known to me, and adopted by our American wine culture.

It is at present the only grape that affords a sure basis to our grape culture, the propaga-

tion of which is rendered feasible, and will in time, by means of its excellency, secure recognition abroad. That in our collections grapes may be found with fruit more juicy and more valuable both for the eye and the palate, I would as little deny as I with the greater certainty assert, that the Norton's Virginia surpasses everything for the press that can be exhibited.

If some one is heard to express his doubts in regard to the taste of this exquisite wine, they could be attributed to certain failures, unavoidable by the inexperienced cultivator in its treatment both at the harvest and the press, and these mistakes can alone be obviated by protracted and careful observation of all those peculiarities belonging to the Virginia.

The very favorable judgment awarded my first trials by judges publicly known and recognized, inspires me with the belief that my method in the treatment of its wine is adapted as much as possible to develop its advantages, which induces me to append it in as brief a space as possible:

The bunch already coloring in the beginning of August, stays on the vine until its berries are covered with the aforementioned light blue bloom, begin to shrink, and the stem of the bunch appears woody; in short, at the most possible retarding of the harvest—in my vineyard, middle of September until the beginning of October. This may be done with so much more certainty in the case of this hardy grape without apprehending essential loss, as the berries may lose in juice, but make up largely in the way of quality.

They should be harvested in good weather, and never while the dew is on. The grapes are then immediately taken to the mill, thence to the vessels ready for fermenting, which must be put up in a place of some temperature, in the cellar in hot weather—when cooler, in the press-house.

If there are no moveable covers with holes connected with the fermenting vessel, by which the rising lees should ever be kept down so far that the must is made to stand above it several inches, they are nevertheless to be covered; and again, in order to protect against too great a pressure of air, closely to cover with blankets or the like. In order to have a more even color of the must, the entire mass is stirred with a stick to the very bottom about every 12 hours, which in the case of the covers noted is not necessary, as by means of them the rising of the skins being prevented they thus impart the proper dye to the must.

[Written for the Valley Farmer.]

THE APPLE TREE.

A man should make a pet of his orchard. He should look upon it as a sort of member of the family; a thing that is looked upon by the children as a kind of household deity, that bestows benefits, that hands the fair fruit to them, to their thirsty mouths; fruit almost as large as they are; valuable fruit, that the tree has taken pains all summer to grow and perfect; and now, here, so large, it is presented, and all ungrudgingly. Why? Because it was well attended by the father. And now it lifts up its fine limbs as if in gratitude for the privilege of doing so much good—it and its owner. The children make merry in its shade. So do the flocks when the children are away; though the flocks like the tree, express themselves in silence. Such a tree is a mother. It is a fruit-bearer, and yearly the good is presented. Then, for ornament, what is equal to its clean, yellow limbs, fine shape (which an apple tree has)—a shape that will bend willingly to the owner's mind, so that out of the owner's mind comes the beauty, and willingly—for, has not the owner planted the tree, and nurtured it, and dressed it—and has he not fed and protected it? and then why not have an interest in it. We all remember Washington and his father's cherry tree. There is interest, attachment, in such things.

A tree is *always* a pleasant object. But especially a fruit tree—but more especially a rare old apple tree, which has handed its fruit from generation to generation—fruit that was eaten by our ancestors (long dead), to whom it tasted just as to us—and if we have kept this old, family tree in good heart, done justice to it—why, it will be a venerable old fruit tree still. And is such a tree not a treasure? We pity those who have no such treasure. There are many of its fellows; but not such—poor, seraggy, decaying things, dying before their time—from neglect. Is this not a pity?

There are some very rare old pear trees; but they are not like the apple tree. There is no such tree like it; such fruit, so healthy, so true in its bearing, such fine shape, because it is the fancy, the birth of your own mind. And this tree is *yours*. No one else has a right to it—only you and your children; your family; of which it is a member—buffeting the wind almost like a forest tree, with its feet in the rich soil which you provided for it. But it is not a hero. It would not do for a tree in the woods, nor in the lonely field. It wants to be in com-

pany with its fellows, or near the house, scraping the window or the roof, as if it wished to tell something.

Who sees a tree in this light? Only he that loves it; and it is such a one that takes care of a tree, and sees that it makes a good income. "Not a farm would buy it," said an old farmer once of a favorite tree in his garden; an old Spitzenberg, with long, swinging branches, and a shape like a great Titan head that has never been shorn, reaching its apples down in myriads to the very ground, the sun and wind going through it everywhere, illuminating it, and making it musical like a great organ. There it was, huge and uncouth: but the delight of the old man, filling his cellar with fruit that was unmatched.

W. I. T. S.

Manure for the Vineyard.

In Dr. Carter's *Vegetable Physiology* are found the following statements:

"Nothing more," says a vine grower on the banks of the Rhine, "is necessary for the manure of a vineyard than the branches which are cut from the vines themselves. My vineyard has been manured in this way for eight years without receiving any other manures, and yet more beautiful and richly laden vines could scarcely be pointed out. I formerly followed the method usually practiced in this district, and was obliged to purchase manure to a large amount. This is now entirely saved, and my land is in an excellent condition. When I see the fatiguing labor used in the manuring of vineyards; horses and men toiling up the mountains with unnecessary materials; I feel inclined to say to all, 'come to my vineyard and see how a bountiful Creator has provided that they should manure themselves, like the trees of the forest, and even better than they! The foliage falls from the trees in a forest, only when the leaves are withered, and they lie for years before they decay; but the branches are pruned from the vines about the end of July while still fresh and moist. If they are then cut into small pieces and mixed with the earth, they undergo a putrefaction so completely that, as I have learned from experience, at the end of a month, not the smallest traces of them can be found."

The same author gives the following from a still poorer vine grower:

"For the last ten years I have been unable to place dung on my vineyard, because too poor to buy it. I therefore dug my vineyard as deep as I would manure it; cut the trimmings into

very small pieces, placed them in the holes, covering them with earth. In a year I had the satisfaction of seeing my barren vineyard become quite beautiful. This plan I continued from year to year, and now my vines grow splendidly and remain the whole summer green even in the greatest heat. All my neighbors wonder how my vineyard is so rich and that I obtain so many grapes from it, and yet they all know I have put no dung on it for ten years."

THE FORM OF FRUIT TREES.

You can give any shape that you please to your trees. There are many fancies in this respect; but not always mere fancies. We saw two young apple trees (the finest that we almost ever saw) last year. But they would never bear; or, rather, they would blossom and bear, but never ripen their fruit: drop it prematurely. These two trees were selected among others (the others doing better though younger) and the heart branches taken out. It was a pity to see this done; for finer looking trees were never seen. But they were sterile. That spoiled even the looks. The heart was out; people prophesied unfavorably. The form was exactly that of a cup; a great hollow inside—"for the sun to scorch the limbs that were protected, and kill your trees," it was said. The trimming was done when the leaves were sprouting. The growth was almost entirely suspended during the summer. The trees were covered with apples inside and out. "But they will fall off as usual," said the owner to the pruner, who pointed to the effect in the summer. But they did not fall off. They staid on till thoroughly ripe, the finest fruit almost in the world. The shape of the trees was ludicrous to behold; but the fruit was the attraction and admiration of everybody. The season was a warm, moist one; soil, a deep, rich loam. All the other trees were outdone. We shall watch with interest the future effect of these trees and report.

F.G.

PRUNING YOUNG TREES.—A correspondent says: "We have two young apple trees that always bore sparsely. One, an early Russet, would always drop its fruit before ripening time. To get up a change, we took out the centre branches, last spring, to give the sun and air a full chance. There was nothing left but a circle of branches which formed the outside of the trees, the inside scooped out by the pruning knife. The result was, a bad shape to each tree, but an enormous crop of the finest and largest apples. It was a rash attempt at pruning, but proved a success. The soil was good."

THE COLD WEATHER AND FRUIT.

ED. VALLEY FARMER: I have examined my fruit trees very closely, and can detect no injury to apple, pear, plum or cherry trees. The buds of the apple appear as plump, fresh and green as I ever saw them. The outer coat of the pear buds are more or less colored from black to a light brown; they feel soft and spongy, but the inclosed germ of the future bloom is, to all appearance, sound and fresh. The buds of the cherry are slightly injured—Duke and Morello varieties. Those of the plum badly damaged, and the peach buds all killed; the trees are more or less injured; the sap wood is badly colored, yet the twigs look plump, and show no signs of shriveling up.

I have always found it hard to tell whether a peach tree was killed or not, until after the leaves come out. I have seen them look worse than they do now and live. The winter of '45 and '46 was a very severe one here; all the peach trees had the appearance of being killed; many cut their trees down; those that were left standing, generally threw out new shoots from the bodies and larger limbs, making new tops, and thus preserved the lives of the trees.

My grapes are all right; last year's growth of Catawba and Isabella, left on the trellis without any protection, are uninjured, except the tip ends.

Judging from the condition of my own trees, both in orchard and nursery, I think the cold has done but little damage to our fruit trees in this part of the State (near Cameron, Clinton Co. Mo.) Perhaps a rational cause can be found in the condition of the trees; the latter part of last summer and fall was very dry. The young wood was well ripened, with the terminal buds fully developed.

I see that the Mo. State Horticultural Society place the R. I. Greening on the list for an early winter apple. That may be all right for St. Louis and vicinity, but it is undoubtedly a poor selection for this section of country. I have fruited it several years; it commences dropping in September, shrivels up and rots, without ripening. That which hangs on until it matures is very fine, but is generally gone before Dec. 1. I have never been able to keep it as late as Christmas; with me, the trees have proved hardy, both in the nursery and orchard, and a tolerable good bearer. J. P. McCARTNEY.

The cranberry is a native of Europe and Asia. The parsnip is supposed to be a native of Arabia.

[Written for the Valley Farmer.]

Lowland Against Upland for Fruit.

The valleys, we have noticed the past season, were much affected by the insect; especially the tender fruit. Our Spitzenbergs had a fair quantity of fruit; but they were, most of them, bitten in many places. There were a few, and but a few, exceptions, and these exceptions were a very large apple. But most of the fruit was wormy, and comparatively worthless. The majority of the apples were wretchedly stunted. This we found generally in the lowlands. On the hills, not a quarter mile distant, the Spitzenbergs were little bitten: and those that had been bitten (though in numerous places) were apparently healed over; and a sound fruit, save the cicatrice was the result. Scarcely a worm is to be found. Probably three fourths of the fruit is round and sound, and has not been touched by the curculio. The soil on the hills is not so good as in the valleys, and the apples are not quite so large, that is the sound ones. We have disposed of our Spitzenbergs, and bought from a neighbor on the hill. For our own use there is nothing finer than these Spitzenbergs (*Æsopus*). And yet the year has been a bad one so far as the insects are concerned.

A NEW YORK RESIDENT.

[Reported for the Valley Farmer.]

Missouri State Horticultural Society. THIRD DAY.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

CHERRIES,

Were taken up for discussion.

Flagg moved that we name the three best cherries for market. Adopted.

Black Tartarian, May Duke, Bauman's May, Early May, Gridley, Yellow Spanish Bigarreau, American Amber, Bigarreau de Lin, Black Eagle, Early Purple Guigne, Governor Wood, Belle Magnifique were proposed.

Flagg moved to proceed by striking out. Carried.

Yellow Spanish Bigarreau. Smith: It is a fine cherry, fine bearer. Wish to ascertain how it does here.

Hull: It is like all the firm fleshed cherries, liable to crack in wet weather: so does Governor Wood.

Flagg: It is one of the most popular in Illinois.

Quinette has two trees planted 15 years; they do very well. Not stricken out.

Colman moved to strike out Gov. Wood. It is the best for amateur cultivation. Have seen it with Braches at Gray's Summit; he says it is not productive enough; will do upon high ground, but not upon prairie. Stricken out.

May Duke (motion to strike out). Husmann objected: it is the hardiest of the early cherries, harder tree than any other I have; should be on the list for general cultivation.

Starr: As a market cherry, we cannot get enough to ripen at once; it ripens from day to day. Hull and Quinette same experience.

Sanders: It is the earliest, hardiest and most productive we have.

Henwood has cultivated it since 1848, and it never failed; ripens on one side of tree at a time. Motion lost.

Early May. Colman: It is said to be a sour, inferior fruit; so with Wilson's Albany. The Early May is early, hardy, productive; sells well in market for pie. If confined to one variety would plant the Early May.

Quinette agreed. Motion lost.

Black Tartarian. Smith: One of the best; not acquainted with it here.

Hull: You may strike it out a thousand times, and still every man who plants cherries will plant it. Adopted.

Gridley. Hull: It ripens after the regular cherry season; it is a Bigarreau and very marketable; it is not much known here, would not therefore like to see it on the list.

Bauman's May (motion to strike out). Colman: It is the earliest cherry with Braches. He recommended it as a market fruit.

Kelly: There is a question as to its hardness. Motion to strike out lost.

Hull: I am in favor of having a large list of cherries: thirty varieties if you choose. Visitors at my grounds would sate themselves at one tree, and get a strong desire to try the next, and eat as many as before, all over twenty varieties. It was the first fruit, and people could not get enough.

American Amber (motion to strike out). Husmann: It has been with me for twelve years a uniformly productive, fine fruit; ripens early; hardy; stood the winters of 1855 and '66 uninjured; yellow fruit with red cheek. Not stricken out.

Bigarreau de Lin. Jordan: A fine fruit at the East—not well known here. Stricken out.

Black Eagle stricken out.

Early Purple Guigne and Belle Magnifique not stricken out.

A question being raised as to the propriety of striking out from the original list, Colman moved to select six from the list originally named. Adopted.

Black Tartarian, Early May, May Duke, Yellow Spanish, Governor Wood and Gridley were adopted.

Sanders thought it would be found that the Black Tartarian was killed this season.

Kelly, Morse and Hull commended it.

APRICOTS

Were then taken up. Smith moved to select three varieties. Adopted.

Large Early, Hemskirke, Peach, Moorpark, Breda, Early Golden, were proposed.

Husmann: Early Golden is one of the finest that comes into market.

Smith: Large Early is good size; bears well; good fruit; ripens the first week in July. Adopted.

Hemskirke. Hull: Ripens about the 20th of June. It is the most showy and largest.

Flagg: It promises well. Adopted.

Peach. Husmann: It is universally productive; one of the best in quality, but liable to the attacks of the curculio. Adopted.

Edwards: I move that the Early Golden be added, it is more seen here than any other.

Hull: It brings \$12 a bushel.

Flagg has always heard it brings good crops of fruit.

Quinette: There are more of this raised than all others together. It always brings \$9 or \$10 a bushel with us.

Sanders: I think it the poorest thing I ever saw—without any taste.

NECTARINES.

Colman moved to select two Nectarines. Adopted.

Colman: I propose the Vanzandt; it is a variety supposed to be a seedling, growing in the stable yard of Dr. Vanzandt in this city; it is a very fine fruit, ripens in October.

Edwards thinks it was obtained from Mr. Thomas; it is very fine. Passed.

Elruge and Pitmaston Orange, adopted.

PLUMS.

Jefferson, Lombard, Washington, Lawrence's Favorite, Imperial Gage, Chickasaw, Damson, Green Gage, Smith's Orleans, Coe's Golden Drop, Columbia, Huling's Superb, Riene Claude De Beval, German Prune, Missouri Nonesuch and Pond's Seedling were proposed.

Green Gage. Smith: It is one of the best; small, good bearer. Lost.

Jefferson. Flagg: Good and beautiful fruit. Adopted.

Smith's Orleans, adopted.

Diamond. For market and cooking it is one of the best.

Hull: Never knew a plum to rot on the tree that had not been in contact with another, or stung by an insect.

Missouri Nonesuch. Husmann: Not affected by the curculio; bears enormously; is a native. Lost.

Pond's Seedling, German Prune, Lawrence's Favorite, Ickworth Imperatrice.

German Prune. Secretary: Is large and fine; much cultivated in the western part of this and Franklin counties.

EVENING SESSION.

Colman moved that Hull be requested to make out a list of Plums, such as he could recommend from his own experience. Adopted.

Hull presented the following list of Plums:

Purple Gage, Lawrence's Favorite, Smith's Orleans, Jefferson, Coe's Golden Drop, Morocco and Ickworth Imperatrice.

STRAWBERRIES

Were then taken up, when it was resolved to select the best five varieties for market purposes.

Jenny Lind, Wilson's Albany, Triomphe de Gand, MacAvoy's Superior, Longworth's Prolific, MacAvoy's Extra Red, Fillmore, British Queen, Washington, and Warner's Seedling were proposed.

Hull proposed Warner's Seedling, but doubted if the name was correct; received it under this name. It had been cultivated by him and around Alton for eight years. The berries were medium, resembling Hovey's Seedling. The ground is literally covered with fruit. Last year the product was small, and from his quarter of an acre he gathered more fruit than his neighbor Booth from four acres. Quality good, firm, ships well, color dark red, later than the other sorts.

Spalding was glad to find a later berry; had watched with interest all the new sorts with the hope of lengthening the season of this healthful fruit either by earlier or later sorts.

Flagg has seen the Warner and considers it valuable.

Wilson's Albany adopted.

Triomphe De Gand. Colman thinks that as a market fruit it is a failure: too unproductive; no one who has tried it here will recommend it for market. The fruit is uncommonly beautiful, fine color, cockscomb shape, large; some berries have measured five to six inches in circumference; but the Wilson's Albany produces four gallons to one of the Triomphe de Gand.

Morse: What the gentleman has just said would lead me to plant it; the fact of its being so large and fine would make up for any want of productiveness in its increased value as a market fruit.

Hadley had two rows of Wilson and two of Triomphe de Gand side by side, rows about the length of this room, and we gathered all we could use, or can or give away. The Triomphe de Gand was a larger, finer, better flavored berry than the Wilson. I have planted out ten thousand of them in Southern Ill.

Miner wishes to know the soils in which they have been tried; he has the highest hill he can find in Missouri; clay soil, with growth of post-oak, white oak and hickory.

Colman: My soil is a light vegetable mold upon retentive clay. Hadley's is the American Bottom.

Long: It bore large fruit, but little of it.

Hadley: Kept the runners off; worked with the hand and hoe.

Bayless has tried the hill system; thinks with mulch they may prove productive.

Colman thought there were no facts to justify our adopting it as a market fruit in Missouri.

Iowa. Spalding: I think it one of the most profitable, comes early into market, rather soft.

Bayless thinks its earliness makes up for its softness; has no variety as yet that can take its place.

Colman thinks it would be a mistake to put it on the market list; its softness is a fatal objection; MacAvoy's Superior is nearly as early.

Morse: Quality is not first-rate, and the Jenny Lind as early.

Sanders: The color is too pale; the calyx is too large; Jenny Lind a much better berry and better market fruit.

Spalding: I am sorry Quinette is not here; last year he said MacAvoy's Superior was the best with him; Iowa the next.

Morse: I think the Jenny Lind the most profitable; it brings me more money than the Iowa; I think Quinette's system of culture about played out; put up in small, neat boxes, the fruit gets into market in good condition and pays well; they are profitable to me, I can net \$600 per acre.

Spalding: Quinette's plantation is old, some 13 or 15 years, and this gives the small fruit. Lost.

Jenny Lind. Sanders: I don't think it productive enough for a market fruit.

Starr gave it up as unproductive. Lost.

MacAvoy's Superior. Bayless: Is it productive without a fertilizer? I have tried it alone, and it does tolerably well.

Edwards: The finest berries that I have seen were the MacAvoy, fertilized by the Iowa. Adopted.

Longworth's Prolific. Colman: I don't like to say anything against this, but think the two varieties selected better; the Longworth is not productive, but produces a few good berries; it is not equal to the two others by one-half.

Booth: I have it and like it; it goes well along with the other two. I can pick a week after the other two; it is as productive as the Wilson, wants high cultivation.

Starr: There is no berry that we grow that is better for market or more productive than this, or comes better in the order of ripening.

Sanders: My opinion is rather favorable; not so productive as Wilson, but very good in every other respect.

Colman: I had the Longworth before I had the Wilson, am discarding the Longworth and increasing the Wilson.

Bayless: What about the Longworth burning out in summer?

Booth: Will burn out easily unless mulched. The Longworth is much better for canning than the Wilson. Adopted.

MacAvoy's Extra Red. Morse: Profitable, late berry; bears the fruit well up from the ground. Passed. Reconsideration moved, and the Iowa adopted.

Colman: I move a re-consideration of the vote upon MacAvoy's Extra Red; it has been tried in a number of places and does well, and its lateness makes it valuable. The motion was reconsidered, and the Extra Red adopted.

LAST DAY.

Pettingill proposed: Resolved, that the New Rochelle or Lawton is the only Blackberry worthy of general cultivation. Adopted.

We give the List of Fruit adopted at the last annual session, and conclude our abstract of the Proceedings. A great many valuable essays and other matter we must omit, but any of our readers who desire to obtain this work, making 148 pages, can do so by remit-

ting to us the cost price, 50 cents; or by obtaining two new subscribers and forwarding to us the names and two dollars, we will send it free of charge. We have had a few hundred copies printed extra to oblige our horticultural friends who might desire to possess this valuable pamphlet.

LIST OF FRUIT ADOPTED.

APPLES.

Summer, for market: Red June, Early Harvest, Red Astrachan.

Summer, for family: American Summer Pearmain, Early Harvest, Sweet June, Early Strawberry, Summer Queen.

Fall, for market: Rambo, Maiden's Blush, Hubbardston Nonesuch, Fameuse, Ramsdell Sweet.

Early Winter: Wine or Pennsylvania Red Streak, Smith's Cider, Fall Queen, Pryor's Red, Rome Beauty, Red Canada, Moore's Sweet.

Early Winter, for family: Yellow Belleflower, Peck's Pleasant, Rhode Island Greening, American Golden Russet, Jonathan.

Late Winter, for market: Rawles' Janet, Newtown Pippin, Michael Henry Pippin, Willow Twig, Winesap, Gilpin, Ben Davis (Carolina, Baltimore Red,) Ladies' Sweet.

Four Best Cider Apples: Hewes' Virginia Crab, Gilpin, Newtown Pippin, Harrison.

List of Apples promising well for trial in Missouri: Esopus Spitzenberg, Bailey's Winter Sweet, Autumn Pearmain, Belmont, Benoni, Early Joe, Elieck's Winter Sweet, Evening Party, Fulton, Haskell's Sweet, Hermann, Minkler, Keswick Codlin, King of Pompan's County, Kirkbridge White, Lemon Pippin, Limber Twig, Ortley, Sops of Wine, Westfield Seek-no-Further, White Pippin, White Winter Pearmain, William's Favorite, Teubner's for cider.

PEARS.

Summer, for market: Doyenne d'Ete, Beurre Giffard, Tyson, Bartlett.

Summer, for family: The same, adding Rostiezer, Madeline and Dearborn's Seedling.

Autumn Pears, for market: Howell, Beurre d'Anjou, Flemish Beauty, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Seckel standard, White Doyenne, Buffum, Napoleon, Duchess d'Angouleme, Beurre Bosc standard, Beurre Diel.

Autumn, for family: Same list.

Winter, for market: Glout Moreceau, Winter Nelis, Lawrence, Vicar of Winkfield, Easter Beurre standard.

Winter, for family: The same list.

Two best pears of each season for market: Summer, Doyenne d'Ete, Bartlett. Fall: Louise Bonne de Jersey, Beurre Bosc. Winter: Easter Beurre, Winter Nelis.

PEACHES—Recommended by Dr. Hull.

1 Serrate Early York, 2 Haines' Early Red, 3 Large Early York, Crawford's Early, 4 Bergen's Yellow, Old Mixon Free, George IV, 5 Crawford's Late, 6 Late Admirable, Columbia, 7 Smock, 8 Heath.

BEST SIX CHERRIES.

Black Tartarian, May Duke, Early May, Yellow Spanish, Governor Wood, Gridley.

BEST FOUR APRICOTS.

Large Early, Hemskirke, Peach, Early Golden.

NECTARINES.

Elruge, Pitmaston's Orange.

PLUMS.

Jefferson, Smith's Orleans, Diamond, Pond's Seedling, German Prune, Lawrence's Favorite, Ickworth Imperatrice.

Barley was found in the mountains of Himalaya.

Alton Horticultural Society.

SATURDAY, April 2, 1864.

The Society met at the residence of A. and F. Starr. Present: Dr. E. S. Hull, J. Curtis, F. Curtis, D. Williams, C. W. Dimmock, H. G. McPike, A. Starr, F. Starr, D. Brown, J. Newman and quite a number of ladies.

The Secretary being absent, Mr. Dimmock presented copies of Agricultural Reports for November and December, from the Commissioner of Agriculture, and letters received by the Secretary.

1. A letter from Isaac Newton, Commissioner of Agriculture, stating that flower seeds were not yet ready for distribution, and that there would be no grape vines to distribute among societies the present season.

2. A note from Geo. Husmann, of Hermann, Mo., giving his definition of a reserve bud: "I call the reserve buds the two small buds above and below each fruit bud on any strong cane. There is a small bud above and one below each large or fruit bud, which will very often remain dormant, if the principal fruit bud starts in spring; but if that is killed they will generally push and produce some fruit; though not as much or as fine as the principal bud."

On motion of Mr. Dimmock the letter was filed for publication.

A cane was brought in and no such buds could be detected, and many members seemed inclined to dispute Mr. Husmann's opinion.

3. A note from Mrs. Annie C. Tribble, of Upper Alton, giving the minimum temperature of '55, '56, '57, and '64, as follows:

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| December 30, 1855, —.8° | |
| January 9, 1856, —.18° | |
| January 18, 1857, —.15° | |
| January 1, 1864, —.22° | |
| From which it appears that the present year exceeds any previously observed, and that next to it comes 1856, a year very destructive to fruit trees. | |
| The following table from Blodget's climatology shows the extreme cold of a series of years at Highland in Madison Co. Ill: | |
| 1841, —.2° | 1847, —.5° |
| 1842, —.3° | 1848, —.5° |
| 1843, —.4° | 1849, —.3° |
| 1844, —.5° | 1850, —.8° |
| 1845, —.7° | 1851, —.4° |
| 1846, —.1° | 1852, —.15° |

The thanks of the Society were tendered Mrs. Tribble for her kindness in furnishing a copy of the record.

Dr. Hull having lost his paper upon "Roots," favored the Society with his views orally. He believes the spongioses are like the leaves and perish every year, and that the large roots are more important than the very small ones.

On motion of F. Starr, a committee consisting of Mr. Dimmock was appointed to obtain the books belonging to the Society.

Mr. Daniel Williams was proposed and elected a member.

On motion of F. Starr, members were requested to collect insects injurious and beneficial—for a Society's Cabinet. Also to investigate the real benefit or injury occasioned by birds.

"Birds" were made the subject for discussion at the next meeting.

The time of meeting was made the first Friday of each month instead of Saturday, as heretofore.

Adjourned to meet at D. E. Brown's on Friday, May 6th, at 10 o'clock, A.M.

After a sumptuous dinner, at which a superior article of currant wine of home manufacture was procured and tested, a thorough survey of the premises was made by the ladies and gentlemen of the Society.

The residence and grounds of Messrs. Starr, were formerly occupied by Dr. E. S. Hull, and were the field of his early efforts and success in horticulture. The large peach orchard of 3,000 trees, which has so long made Alton famous for choice fruit, has suffered

much from the severe winter, and will doubtless ere long give way to new trees. The magnificent evergreens surrounding the unpretending stone house, attract the eye from a great distance, and guide to the premises without the necessity of making inquiry. These large evergreens, some twenty, were planted twenty years since, and some of them are models of umbrageous elegance. They have also a large number of Norway Spruce in fine condition and suitable size for transplanting. They have vineyards containing about 1,300 vines, mostly Catawba, Concord and Isabella. They have also 1,000 cherry trees, 1,500 pear trees, 2,700 apple trees, and 1,000 currant bushes. A large part of the trees last enumerated were planted by Messrs. Starr, who have intelligently performed a vast amount of labor, for which they will doubtless find a rich reward ere many years elapse.

TRANSPLANTING EVERGREENS.

There is much difficulty in keeping alive Evergreens that are transplanted. They will die, and the cause cannot be ascertained. A simple reference to the tree principle, and the reader can see for himself where the difficulty is. The branches and roots of a tree correspond. If there is a large growth of branches, there is positive evidence that the same is the case with the roots. This is understood by all pomologists. It is also known that when this equilibrium is destroyed, nature endeavors to restore it. This she will readily do when the loss is in the branches: they will send out new shoots, and increase the growth of the limbs that remain; hence, pruning may be done with impunity. But to cut off the roots and leave the branches, is another thing. Here is the great difficulty in our transplanted trees. When taken up, some of the roots are necessarily severed. If the branches are not thinned out to meet this loss, there will not be sufficient support from the lessened roots to grow them all as usual. Hence, the tree will become stunted, will grow little, look sickly, perhaps lose a limb or two, and if the disproportion is great (between the branches and the roots) will die. It is for this reason (the loss of roots) that trees are pruned when set out. But evergreens are not pruned; hence the difficulty. Either take up all the roots, and keep moist, or dispense with the tree, for pruning evergreens is out of the question. Our salvation is in saving all the roots. A small tree is therefore preferable. Sometimes climate, &c. are unpropitious. This may be known.

F.G.

Hops.—Hops grown in a valley fenced in by hills and woods, will thrive, all the better for the rich soil and the warm place; but they are more apt to blast, to receive the usual injuries of insects, &c. A large locality in New York the past year, lost all its hops in consequence of these very principles that predominate in a valley. The season was moist and warm (what a valley generally is), and consequently great growth of vine, but an invitation to disease, &c. The crop in the valley was still worse than that on the uplands.

Domestic Department.

COFFEE.—Let your coffee stand five minutes after the cream and sugar are mixed with it; then drink, as then the ingredients are all united, and you have coffee, and not before—before, you have a mixture of cream, sugar and coffee, tasting each—not so when united. Time improves coffee both in the raw bean and when browned, and when poured out. Remember this, and improve your coffee.

HOW TO GET SLEEP.—A popular authority says if a person is disposed to be wakeful at a certain hour of the night, let him at once get up when he wakes, and stay up. Repeated three times he will be cured; or, let him go to bed as many hours later as he lies awake at night, and he will sleep all night.

TO WASH LAWN AND MUSLIN.—Delicate lawn and muslin dresses are so frequently spoiled by bad washing, the color of the fabrics yielding so readily to the action of the soap, that it is better to adopt some method of cleaning the finest materials, and imparting to them the appearance of newness. Take two quarts of wheat bran, and boil it for half an hour in soft water.

Let it cool, then strain it, and pour the strained liquor into the water in which the dress is to be washed. Use no soap. One rinsing alone is required and no starch. The bran water not only removes the dirt, and insures against change of color, but gives it a pleasanter stiffness than any preparation of starch. If the folds are drawn from the skirts and sleeves, the dress will iron better; and will appear, when prepared in this way, as fresh as new.

REMOVING GREASE SPOTS OUT OF SILK.—Take a lump of magnesia, and rub it wet over the spot; let it dry, then brush the powder off, and the spot will disappear; or take a visiting card, separate it, and rub the spot with the soft internal part, and it will disappear, without taking the gloss off the silk.

All linen will turn yellow if kept long unused locked up in a linen press, excluded from air and light; so the best way that I have found of restoring it to its color, is by exposing it the open air in nice dry weather. Exposure to the light and continued airings will be found the best way of preserving its whiteness. I know of none other.

HOW TO REMOVE MILDEW FROM LINEN.—First of all take some soap (any common kind will do), and rub it well into the linen, then scrape some chalk very fine, and rub that in also; lay the linen on the grass, and as it dries wet it again; twice or thrice doing will remove the stains.

POTATO PIE CRUST.—Boil one quart of dry mealy potatoes. The moment they are done mash them, and sift through a cullender. Stir thoroughly one cup of Graham flour, then add the potatoes, rubbing them evenly through the flour in the same manner as the shortening in common pie crust. Have ready one cup corn meal; pour over it one and one-third cups boiling water, stirring it till all the meal is wet, then add it to the potatoes and flour, mixing till thoroughly incorporated together. No more flour should be added. The molding board should be well covered with dry flour, however, as it is slightly difficult to roll it out. It should be rolled very thin, and baked in a moderate oven, care being taken that it is not overdone, as a little too much baking is apt to render it tough.

Note.—It is very essential that the above conditions should be complied with. Bear in mind that the potatoes must be hot, and mixed immediately with the flour; the water be poured while boiling, upon the corn meal, and the whole mixed together very quickly and baked immediately. Inattention to one of these requisites will be quite apt to insure a failure.



[Written for the Valley Farmer.]

RETROSPECTION.

How these bright days remind us of the beautiful springs, gleaming out like rare jewels from the years of our childhood. And now do we in particular remember how we have, on just such days as this, eagerly watched the process of gardening, while our untried mind was reaching out beyond its limits, and striving to grasp and comprehend the great miracle of creation. So much like burial and resurrection does it seem, that now we can never put the seed into the ground without thinking that soon, very soon, we must lie down—down in the darkness of the grave, with the cold earth above us. But God will quicken us again, and we shall burst our prison and arise clothed in incorruption, bearing the image of the heavenly, as we have borne the image of the earthly.

They seem long, very long, those years, reaching back from to-day unto the day afar off, when we first called a few square feet of earth in mother's garden, all our own, and with infinite care and labor placed the precious flower seeds in their little graves. There was our first experience in the abiding law, that by the sweat of the brow the earth must yield her increase. What anxiety was ours; what impatient waiting for the upspringing of that imprisoned life! What day dreams we had above that spot of ground, and what visions of glory passed over it! But we walked by sight in those days; our faith in nature had not yet come to us, and we blighted all our fair prospects by meddling with her invisible works.

Oh, days of childhood, ye were full of ignorance and error, and glad we are that ye are gone forever. Would to God the days of womanhood were free from fallacies as gross; that so many of the experiences of life, which were like fire to pass through, had not been in vain.

Youth is called the seedtime of life. Blessed are they whose youth is sown with good seed, that all the years of their life may bear abun-

dantly the beautiful and useful. But ah, if the little weed that springs up, is not plucked out, how soon its strong roots undermine the tender plants, and its baleful shade excludes the sunshine.

Yes, youth is the seedtime, but "the harvest is the end of the world and the reapers are the angels." Then oh, parents and teachers, be wise and vigilant while you sow, for you toil for the ingathering of our Master's garner.

COUNTRY GIRL.

Be Mine, Dear Maid—Be Mine.

Each glistening dew-drop on the leaf,
Does brightly shine, does brightly shine,
And twinkles sly to snowdrops nigh,
As does to me those eyes of thine;
The little blue forget-me-nots,
Bathe in the stream so modest, while
Their petals blue 'mind me of you,
And those blue eyes that on me smile.
I'm thine! yes, ever thine!
Be mine, dear maid, be mine!

The languid fuschia, drooping there,
Vermillion soft, with purple tips,
Each dew-drop gently brushes off
The leaf as I would from thy lips;
Then pout not, pretty maid, I pray,
But on thy face let sunbeams shine,
And through life's flowered fields we'll stray,
If, simple May-bud, you'll be mine.
I'm thine! yes, ever thine?
Be mine, dear maid, be mine!

THE OLD CHAMBER.

Ah, what heat has been here, summers and summers ago! The whole inside is brown and built over; for here revealed myriads of insects. Already a black wasp is humming among the mud-cells which adhere to the roof, and remind me of an Indian village. A spider is aiming at the inkstand. I look up: the roof is hung with cobwebs, let down like lines to catch the unwary—the spot of all on earth they seem most fit for. The spider has missed his mark. Another is letting himself down, and another; and now I see there is a general lighting and mounting of spiders of all sizes. It is a pokerish place to write in. The old haunted apartment seems astonished at my presence; and its inmates, the spiders, seem determined on ousting the intruder. Spin away, ye troubled spirits of an evil shape; in king's palaces, as well as in ghostly rooms: but me ye terrify or move not.

A long pointed roof! That was the style 70 years ago, when this was built. It is marked by numerous raised splints, where the nail-points come through, just as the hammer left them.—Since then, naught but the tap of the hail and the rain-drop have been heard upon it. It is a clean place (the outside roof), washed by the rain and dew, and pressed by the soft foot of the

snow. The dirty world is all around, but never here; it never reaches the roof.

To get rid of all bustle, and find rest for weary limbs, I stole up to this old garret chamber, and stretched myself out on a low straw bed there is here. With face turned up, I for the first time saw what a really trumpery-looking place it is. A bundle of dried wormwood, tied with a woolen string, hangs exactly over my face; ditto a string of red pepper; ditto a collection of linen yarn at my left; catnip in front, clouding the window; within reach of my arm, a straw-braided bee-hive, holding radish-stalks full of spur-like pods; a couple sheets filled with straw; sundry wheels—rope, flax, wool and quill wheels; and in a corner a cradle, that has rocked:—What has not cradles rocked? The place inclines one to sleep, so I will dodge the scythe-snaths, and, *Excunt.* F.G.

Conjugal Poetry.

MY CHILD'S ORIGIN.

One night, as old St. Peter slept,
He left the door of Heaven ajar,
When through a little angel crept,
And came down with a falling star.

One summer, as the blessed beams
Of morn approached, my blushing bride
Awakened from some pleasing dreams,
And found that angel by her side.

God grant but this—I ask no more—
That when he leaves this world of sin,
He'll wing his way to that bright shore,
And find that door of Heaven again.

ST. PETER'S REPLY.

Full eighteen hundred years or more,
I've kept my door securely tyled.
There was no little angel strayed,
Nor one been missing all the while.

I did not sleep, as you supposed,
Nor left the door of Heaven ajar,
Nor has a little angel left
And gone down with a falling star.

Go ask that "blushing bride," and see
If she don't frankly own and say,
That when she found that angel babe,
She found it by the good old way.

God grant but this—I ask no more—
That should your number still enlarge,
That you will not do as before,
And lay it to old Peter's charge.

CHEAP CAKE.—2½ cups of flour, 1½ sugar, 1 sweet milk, 1 spoon butter, a teaspoonful soda, 2 of cream of tartar, 1 egg, flavor with cinnamon or to suit taste.

STEAM BATTER/PUDDING.—1 pint of milk or water, 1 teaspoonful of soda, 3 of cream of tartar, 3 eggs. Dissolve the soda and cream of tartar in a little of the milk or water. Butter size of an egg, add a little salt, mix as thick as pancake. Steam one hour, and do not lift the lid during the hour. Fresh fruit improves it. *Serve with sauce.*

LITTLE CHILD.

A peacock spreads his fan before me; while opposite, in an upper window, sits an angel child of a few years. It is very small; the perfection of the *petite*. When it trips about, you see the smallest human features locomote, reminding you of some active thing not belonging to the *homo*. Then it is spry, active, ever in motion, with a little, round laughing eye, *always* laughing. Its vice is; straying. Everyday, in fair weather, I see the miniature feet pat along rapidly with the smallest of progress. Sometimes it is bare-headed, but usually with an adult bonnet on—or what seems such—so large, the flap reaches down to the feet.

It has left the window, and somehow has got down, and is tripping with all its small might to get across the yard—its object the road. Rose comes and takes it up: A scream. Rose runs: The scream increases; the little legs kick; they are put down; and the dwarf thing walks side by side with the flower. Like a squirrel, or some such small, jaunty thing, seems she on a horse's back, where her father sometimes mounts her. Then (if her face is turned from you) the bonnet hides the whole small thing, and a bonnet alone seems riding.

F. G.

HAPPINESS IN CONTENTMENT.—Oh that we could impress the truth of contentment upon every mind! to be happy with a little, or with much, but especially with little. It is here that the great aim of the world (happiness) is mostly found—in humble, contented circumstances.—The king is dazzled; and he is therefore king, But the beggar is the happier. Yet people will not learn the lesson; they will rather be dazzled; they yield to the siren that destroys their happiness. Happiness looks out of the meek eyes of contentment. It is allied to tears, to sadness even. But it is still happy. It wants to be so (sad), for this is often the garment of happiness, as the cloud has the sun behind it.

Mother earth is humble. The nearer we lie to her bosom, the happier we are, not degraded; else the diamond—still lower—were degraded. Its very light was born in darkness—mantle, we have said, that often shrouds happiness. Happiness takes pleasure in children; in the mother; in the wife; in everything; for that is its nature. An uneasy, unhappy nature, sees happiness nowhere.

'Tis much, immortal beauty to admire;
But more, immortal beauty to withstand.

LORD THURLOW.

[Written for the Valley Farmer.]

HOW TO MAKE A FLY-TRAP.

Fill a tumbler within three-quarters of an inch full of soap-suds; cover with a lid of paste-board, with a hole half an inch in diameter in the centre; the bottom of the cover to be smeared with molasses or sweetened water. Then set anywhere in the room, tapping the lid now and then, which expedites the death of the flies. For years we have used this as the most ready and efficient mode of getting rid of some of our flies—for one must be constantly killing his neighbor's flies. Yet, still, it helps to kill a few hundred a day. To poison them, which is much resorted to, is to have your room strewn with carcasses—which is filthy, to say the least. The most effectual remedy, late in the season,

is to take advantage of the cool nights, and in the morning, when the flies are huddled together, slaughter them. An old broom is efficacious.

Hap-hazard is enjoyment; calculation, progress.

Green and blue are Nature's colors. They never hurt the eye, because the eye is accustomed to them.

A vicious man is more so from habit than nature.

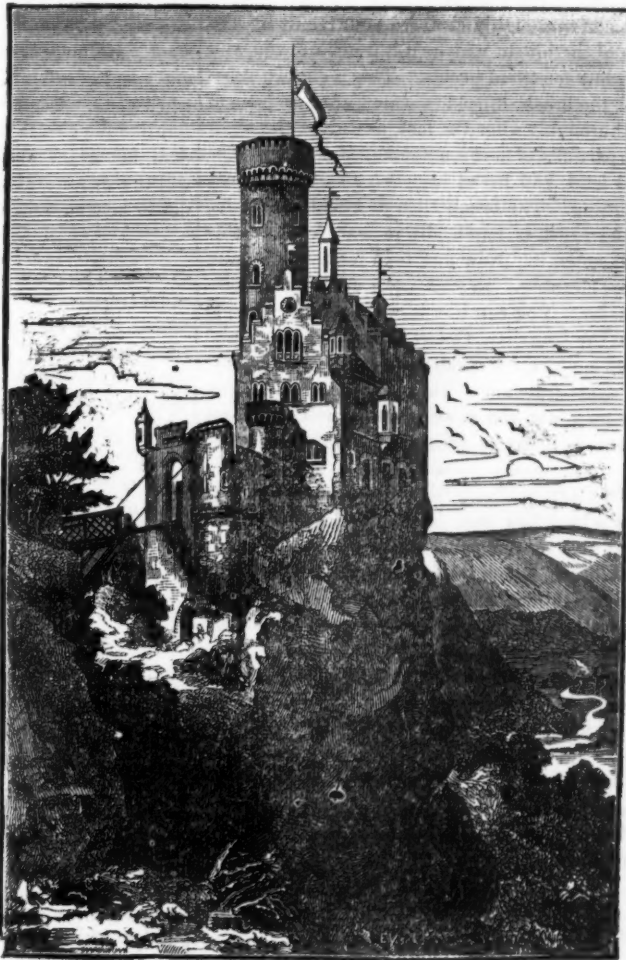
Life is sweet at times. In our sad moments we should remember the sweet: 'twill help us much. We should also remember that other sweet moments are in the future for us.

A sweet thought will sometimes sweeten a whole day.

THE CASTLE OF LICHTENSTEIN, SWITZERLAND.

It would be a curious sight to see such a building as the picture represents, on some of the hills in our Western country, and it is very probable that scarcely any of our readers have ever seen a real castle, though perhaps many of them are building castles in the air, which, alas! for poor human nature, are never anything but airy nothings destined sooner or later in this noisy world of strife, to vanish without leaving a vestige behind, save the truth that here is not our home: some better, lasting and glorious home beyond this transitory state is our inheritance, if we only follow the Bible as our guide.

Castles, similar to the one here are found all over Europe. Many of them were built centuries ago. Most of them are noted more or less for scenes of bloodshed. The castle of Lichtenstein has become celebrated in the history of the Seven Years' War, and is situated on one of the hills adjoining the beautiful valley through which the river Rhine passes; and everything about it has an appearance of quiet and loveliness, quite in contrast with the bloody scenes that have been perpetrated there in former times.



KEEP YOUR TEETH CLEAN.

We have met people who are noted for their neatness, who yet have unclean teeth. But these people are not truly neat, else the mouth, the most important part, would be kept clean and sweet. (We are not an editor writing this article, but a dentist.) Dirty teeth are unendurable—in every sense you may take it; bad looks; bad breadth; bad person (to permit such a thing); and bad health, or leading to it. It is for this reason, as well as to see the tongue, that some doctors look into the mouths of their patients. If every breath inhales stench, it needs no doctor to tell that this is injurious. Without number are such mouths. And yet the mouth pretends to take in only what is clean, when the uncleanest thing it can take, is not half so foul as itself.

But the remedy.

It is to keep your mouth clean (after the dentist has thoroughly cleansed your teeth) by the use of the brush, which, if it is news to you, you can buy for twenty cents. This is simply all.—Use the brush, dipped in water, after each meal—thoroughly after the last, as during the night the particles of food if not removed, will turn sour and fetid, and breed insects (*animalcule*) before morning. The brush then and cold water; or, if the brush is harsh, dip in warm water; this will soften it. Now and then teeth will require more cleaning. In such case, use a little tooth-powder. You can buy it of the dentist; or get it at the druggists. Chewing gum; smoking; and chewing tobacco, make the teeth dirty. The use of acids—lemons, oranges, apples, will clean them (if not too dirty); but it will also hurt them, as it has an action upon the enamel.

OUR LIFE.—Every night is a new one; every day a brand new one. It is these days and nights that give us our pains and our joys, and at the end, death, which is the best of all, if we could only so think; but there is the sentinel, Fear-of-death, that terrifies us—and we cannot see what truth teaches us.

And these days and nights are now passing us along, though they themselves only seem to pass. And we cannot alter it; we cannot retard it a jot. This is fate. But when a man rides, as on a barque, with the current, contentedly, he will be happy, and soon reach the happier haven.—Then there will be no more current, no more day and night.

We should always remember that death from old age is without pain.

Dreams are sometimes better than reality.

EXTRACTS FROM OSSIAN.

Weep on the rocks of roaring winds, O maid of Inistore! Bend thy fair head over the waves, thou lovelier than the ghost of the hills, when it moves on the sun-beam at noon over the silence of Morven. He is fallen: thy youth is low, pale beneath the sword of Cuthullin. No more shall valor raise thy love to match the blood of kings. Trenar, graceful Trenar died, O maid of Inistore! His gray dogs are howling at home; they see his passing ghost. His bow is in the hall unstrung. No sound is in the hall of his hinds.

Like autumn's dark storms pouring from two echoing hills, towards each other approached the heroes. Like two deep streams from high rocks meeting, mixing, roaring on the plain, loud rough, and dark in battle, meet Lochlin and Inis-fail. Chief mixes his strokes with chief, and man with man; steel, clanging, sounds on steel. Helmets are cleft on high. Blood bursts and sneaks around. Strings murmur on the polished yews. Darts rush along the sky. Spears fall like the circles of light, which gild the face of night: as the noise of the troubled ocean, when roll the waves on high; as the last peal of thunder in heaven—such is the din of war.

Pleasant is thy voice, O Corril, said the blue-eyed chief of Erin. Pleasant are the words of other times. They are like the calm shower of spring when the sun looks on the field, and the light cloud flies over the hills: O strike the harp in praise of my love, the lonely sun-beam of Dunscaith. Strike the harp in praise of Bragela, she that I left in the isle of mist, the spouse of Samo's son. Dost thou raise thy fair face from the rock to find the sails of Cuthullin? The sea is rolling distant far; its white foam deceives thee for my sails. Retire, for it is night my love; the dark wind sighs in thy hair. Retire to the halls of my feast; think of the times that are past; I will not return till the storm of war is ceased.

HERE is a beautiful thought of the celebrated Thomas Carlyle: "When I gaze into the stars, they look down upon me with pity from their serene and silent spaces like eyes glistening with tears over the little lot of man. Thousands of generations, all as noisy as our own, have been swallowed up by time, and there remains no record of them any more, yet Arcturus and Orion, Sirius and the Pleiades are still shining in their courses, clear and young as when the shepherd first noted them from the plain of Shinar! What shadows we are, and what shadows we pursue!"

SCRAPS.

Be careful how you treat doctors, for they may some day or other take hold of you, and *treat* you.

The man who reflects upon his experience, is the man who gets the benefit of it.

The face of a friend after long absence, is like the face of the sun after long cloudiness, it has a cheerful affect. It is therefore a benefit, as well as a pleasure, to have friends visit us.

Love is fickle. Mild love, is more lasting, because it has more of friendship, and less of passion. Pure passion is good for nothing; it is dangerous; it has done a world of mischief; it is doing it daily—and no doubt will continue to do it.

When anger takes you, hold it back—and it will not strike. You will afterward thank yourself for the wise deed.

It is hard to break a habit when we are old! easy when young. (A saw worth repeating.)

Beauty is a treasure; but it is apt to be a dear one.

Beauty and goodness are jewels. It needs intelligence to guide them; and then you are not safe, so "dangerous is beauty."

If the pain that is caused by being in the fashion were reckoned up, what would be the sum?

We are too much governed by precedent.—The pig is just as happy as the lamb—just as handsome, just as playful, and yet we prefer the lamb.

The diamond represents a whim—a desire to be thought rich—above our neighbor. It reflects pride.

The infant is the man without control. A great lesson may be here learned, letting us into a great secret—if we are so unthinking as never to have looked within ourselves. The squalling babe is the ireful man; there are many squalling babes.

A fly, like a bird, never walks; it runs. Some men are flies—ever on the run, ever on the wing; yet they perform nothing.

Thackeray says the love of money is the most lasting passion.

Greatness is never enjoyed; else it would never be obtained. It comes as the growth of man does—by natural process. To aim at greatness is to aim at vanity. This is a sad truth to many.

Never entertain regret. Regret once, and then dismiss it; else it will breed mischief.

Love is much a habit. Be careful therefore, how you indulge in it.

To the student. Of all things avoid embarrassment of mind. It is hurtful to the intellect, though it may not seem so.

GUARDING AGAINST VULGAR LANGUAGE.—There is as much connection between the words and thoughts, as there is between the thoughts and words; the latter are not only the expressions of the former, but they have the power to react upon the soul, and leave the stain of their corruption there. A young man who uses one profane or vulgar word, has not only shown that there is a foul spot on his mind, but by the utterance of that word he extends that spot and inflames it, till, by indulgence, it will soon pollute and ruin the whole soul. Be careful of your words, as well as your thoughts. If you can control the tongue, that no improper words are pronounced by it, you will soon be able also to control the mind and save that from corruption. You extinguish the fire by smothering it, or by preventing bad thoughts bursting out in language. Never utter a word anywhere which you would be ashamed to speak in the presence of the most refined female, or the most religious man.

INSTINCTS OF SPIDERS.—Spiders are greatly influenced by atmospheric changes, and on that account they have been termed living barometers. If the weather is likely to become rainy, windy, or disagreeable, spiders fix the terminating filaments, on which the whole web is suspended, unusually short. If, on the other hand, terminating filaments are uncommonly long, the weather will be serene and continue so for ten or twelve days.

WE MUST ADVANCE.—Perhaps there is no higher proof of the excellency of man than this, that to a mind properly cultivated whatever is bounded is little. The mind is continually laboring to advance, step by step, through successive gradations of excellence, towards perfection, which is dimly seen, at a great, though not hopeless distance, and which we must always follow, because we never can attain; but the pursuit rewards itself; one truth teaches another, and our store is always increasing, though nature can never be exhausted.

Archbishop Usher says: "If good people would but make their goodness agreeable, and smile instead of howling in their virtue, how many would they win to the good cause."

Wanted—by a maiden lady, "a local habitation and a name." The real estate she is not particular about, so that the title is good. The name she wishes to hand down to posterity.

"Heroine" is perhaps as peculiar a word as any in our language; the two first letters of it are male; the three first female; the four first a brave man, and the whole a brave woman.

Pat Doolan, at Inkerman, bowed his head to a cannon ball, which whizzed past six inches above his bare skin. "Faith," says Pat, "one never loses anything by politeness."

A horse is not known by his harness, but his qualities; so men are to be esteemed for virtue, not wealth.

Nature is poetry—when reflected on the retina of the poet; thence shown to the world. It is in this showing that the success of the poet lies.

HUMMING BIRD.

Who is there that is not acquainted with this little lover of flowers? Wherever anybody has a flower garden, there he is always ready to gather its sweets. He is so small and flies so swiftly that he sometimes eludes the sight; but when he is at his work among the flowers, his wings produce a humming sound from which he derives his name, and one can often hear them amongst the flowers some time before they can be discovered. God has designed that we should learn something from all his created works. Let us learn from this little creature to gather the good from everything about us, and thus may our life pass pleasantly away in the enjoyment of those bounties which our Heavenly Father has given us.

What Young People Should Know.

The best inheritance that people can leave their children, is the ability to help themselves. This is better than a hundred thousand dollars apiece. In any trouble or difficulty, they will have two excellent servants ready in the shape of their two hands. Those who can do nothing and have to be waited on, are helpless and easily disheartened at the misfortunes of life. Those who are active and hardy, meet trouble with a cheerful face, and soon surmount them. Let young people, therefore, learn to do as many different things as possible.

Every farmer's boy should know how, sooner or later,

1. To dress himself, black his own shoes, cut his brother's hair, wind a watch, sew on a button, make a bed, and keep all his clothes in perfect order.
2. To harness a horse, grease a wagon, and drive a team.
3. To carve, and wait on the dinner table.
4. To milk the cows, shear the sheep, and dress a veal or a mutton.
5. To reckon money and keep accounts accurately, and according to good book-keeping rules.
6. To write a neat, appropriate, briefly expressed business letter, in a good hand, and fold to subscribe it properly.
7. To plow, sow grain and grass seed, drive a mowing machine, swing a scythe, build a stack and a load of hay.
8. To put up a package, build a fire, whitewash a wall, mend broken tools and regulate a clock.

There are many other things that would render boys more useful to themselves and others: these are merely a specimen. But the young man who can do all these things well, and who is ready at all times to assist others, will command far more respect and esteem than if he knew merely how to drive fast horses, smoke segars, play cards, and talk nonsense to foolish young ladies at parties.

Sleep is more refreshing than food.

AMUSEMENTS are indispensable to sound morals. If the young were not provided with harmless amusements, they would have corrupting and vicious amusements. Some parents are so much afraid that their children will do wrong, that they will not let them do any thing. But when they obtain their liberty, with none to control their pleasures, never having learned to act aright, they are quite sure to riot in self-indulgence.

The man who undertakes to govern his appetite, generally undertakes an impracticable job. It is more than herculean. If, however, he succeeds, the success will be commensurate with the undertaking.

A little less food at our meals, would benefit us all. A little less drink (water) would do the same.

The gurgle which was heard in Eden, is still retained by the brook.

Literature without feeling is a corpse; there is anatomy, but no soul.

The most wretched writing is, to aim at fine words. The true object of writing is, to say your say. And if you have nothing to say, you have nothing to write. If the beauty is not in you, you cannot get it into the words, for beauty shapes the language. In other words, style is the mind's shape.

There is no one who knows so little, but that little is unknown by some others.

To sit down to write a fine story, is to fail.—When the story wants to be written, then write it.

Night is beautiful—her darkness as well as her stars. Hence we love black.

CHAPPED HANDS.—There are many things good for this. But we know of nothing so good as the simplest of all the remedies—to wash with vinegar. We know that this is good, because we have fully tried it. We have more particularly tried it when the hands are rough, and little or nothing chapped. The vinegar must be strong; and if the hands are not too rough, one application is sufficient, and affords immediate relief. Wash well the part or limbs affected; then hold by the fire, rubbing till dry. It will take longer to dry than water. The best time—if indeed there is any difference—is to apply on retiring to bed. We are glad to recommend this to our farming friends, who know what it is to be afflicted with this annoyance. The girls also will thank us. Use the vinegar—use it once or twice a day for several days if the evil is extensive. But keep your hands out of hard water. Cistern water often is that, and generally to a greater or less extent.

MIXED TEA.—Mixed tea generally is a nuisance. It is good, however, when the tea, otherwise good, lacks a quality, as, for instance, where flavor is wanting in one tea, and body in another. The two united restore the body and the flavor, and the result is, an improved tea.

Lovers, of all folk that be alive,
The most disquiet have.—[Chaucer.



Editor's Table.

Proceedings Mo. State Hort. Society.

The Proceedings of the above Society are printed and ready for delivery. They embrace 148 pages of valuable matter, which should be in the hands of every horticulturist. We will send a copy free to every person who forwards to us the names of two new subscribers and two dollars. The price of this pamphlet is 50 cents. Any one of our subscribers can, with a little exertion, procure two subscribers in their own neighborhoods, and thus obtain this interesting and valuable digest of horticulture.

MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.—At the meeting of the State Board of Agriculture, which was called for, by the Act of the Legislature, on the second Wednesday of April, it was decided to adjourn to the 25th of May, with the hope of having a full Board present, as it will be desirable for members to visit St. Louis at that time, being in the midst of the Great Sanitary Fair.

Several of the members, it is supposed, were not informed of the time of the meeting in April, and the Postoffice address of some of the members is not known here. The members will confer a favor by communicating to the Editor of this Journal their intention to be present. The names of the members of the Board are as follows: Geo. R. Buckner of St. Charles Co., Benj. P. Clifford of Pike, Lucius Salisbury of Chariton, John Dunn of Shelby, T. J. Bailey of Green, Frederick Muench of Warren, Richard Gentry of Pettis, L. D. Morse of St. Louis, C. C. Manwaring of Gasconade, and Henry Shaw of St. Louis.

The Act provides an appropriation sufficient to meet the expenses of the Board.

FISH'S PATENT COOKING AND NURSERY LAMPS.—It gives us pleasure always to commend an article of comfort, economy and utility, and when these are combined in one article, as in the apparatus under notice, we are ready to say to one and all of our patrons, here is a practical Alladin's lamp.

Do you want a breakfast? Light your lamp, fill the boiler half full of water, then place in the inner boiler eggs, or hash meat, or anything you desire to have stewed or boiled, which inner boiler sits directly within the main boiler, then place the iron stand upon the top, on which you may place a common frying pan, and fry a chop or anything desired. When the food is cooked, which it will be within half an hour after lighting the lamp, you remove the pan and stand from the top, take out the inner boiler, draw the boiling water from the main boiler upon your tea or coffee, fill up the boiler with water to be used as occasion may require, put on the cover and top stand, and set

your teapot or coffee-pot on the top to cook or draw. When the meal is finished, you have an abundance of hot water with which to wash your dishes. The wonderful part of it is, that all this is done at an expense of one cent with coal oil, or one and a half cents if gas is used, with no fires to roast you, no dust, dirt or ashes to clean, and no coal bills to pay. There are various other uses to which the apparatus may be applied. Every family in the land would find it an economical addition to their household goods. And to families of moderate means, who are compelled to economize so much in times of high prices, and to individuals who care to provide their own meals, the article is almost indispensable.

The nursery or sick room lamp is commended by the leading physicians of this and other cities as the best ever invented.

Our friends will see these lamps on exhibition at the Mississippi Valley Sanitary Fair—a liberal donation having been made by the manufacturers; and G. W. Curtis & Co., No. 7 South Fifth Street, Saint Louis, are the manufacturers' sole agents for this city.

HEADERS.—Ed. Valley Farmer: We hear a good deal of talk about the Mayberry Header, and wish to learn more about it. How does it differ from the Reaper, and what advantages more does it possess? By answering these questions, you will oblige

WHEAT GROWER.

[REPLY.—We shall leave these questions to be answered by those who have tried both. They are the best judges.—Ed.]



FOR SALE.

We have a large stock of APPLE TREES, embracing the best varieties in the West. Price 20 cents each; \$15 per 100. Our stock of PEARS is also large, particularly Standard, and the trees are superior. We have a fair stock of DWARF PEARS, including those varieties that succeed best on Quince—Ages, 2 and 3 years old. Our stock of CHERRY, PEACH, QUINCE, &c., is fine. Of SHADE TREES, SHRUBS AND ROSES, we have an unequalled assortment.

Every Family should have an abundant supply of GRAPES, STRAWBERRIES, RASPBERRIES, CURRANTS, GOOSEBERRIES, NEW ROCHELLE BLACKBERRIES, ASPARAGUS PLANTS, AND LINNEUS RHEARB. We can supply all these, and of the best quality. Greenbacks invested in good Fruit Trees and Plants, will not depreciate, but pay a large per cent. upon the investment, and as we sell at old specie prices, now is a good time to invest.

Fruit is a great luxury, and should be enjoyed by all. Now is the time to plant. Send for a Catalogue. Address, N. J. COLMAN & CO.,

Proprietors of the St. Louis Nursery.

IMPORTED STONE PLOVER.

This imported Thoroughbred Horse, will stand during the season of 1864, at J. L. Graham's Castor Hill Farm, 2 miles West of the Fair Ground, on the St. Charles Plank Road, commencing Monday, April 11th and closing July 15th. Terms as follows: Stone Plover is without exception the best bred horse in the United States, and stands at the lowest price, being \$35 for the season for half bred, and \$50 for thoroughbreds, the money to be paid at the time of the first service, or an approved note given for the amount.

Good pasture furnished for mares sent from a distance, at 75 cents per week. All escapes and accidents to be at the risk of the owner. For further particulars as to pedigree, &c. apply to J. L. Graham, at the Gothic Stable on Fifth St. Saint Louis, or to the owner Thomas Williams on the premises.

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Stands unrivalled and unequalled as the greatest labor saving machine in the world. It will save \$266 over the Reaper in cutting one hundred acres (see our pamphlet). It cuts 10 feet wide and delivers the cut grain into the wagon with a draft of only 375 lbs., saving all the labor of cutting, binding and shocking, as

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CHICORY.—A subscriber asks us for directions to raise Chicory. Prepare the ground well by working fine. Then sow the seed in drills about eighteen inches apart. Thin out the plants when they get large enough to hoe, to five or six inches apart. Keep the weeds out and the ground well worked about the plants, and they will return you a good yield.

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| APRICOT and NECTARINE, - - - | | |
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| QUINCE, Angers, Orange and - - - | | |
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| GOOSEBERRIES, - - - | Each. | Doz. |
| Strong plants, - - - | \$0.10 | \$1.00 |
| CURRANTS, Red and - - - | | |
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It
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